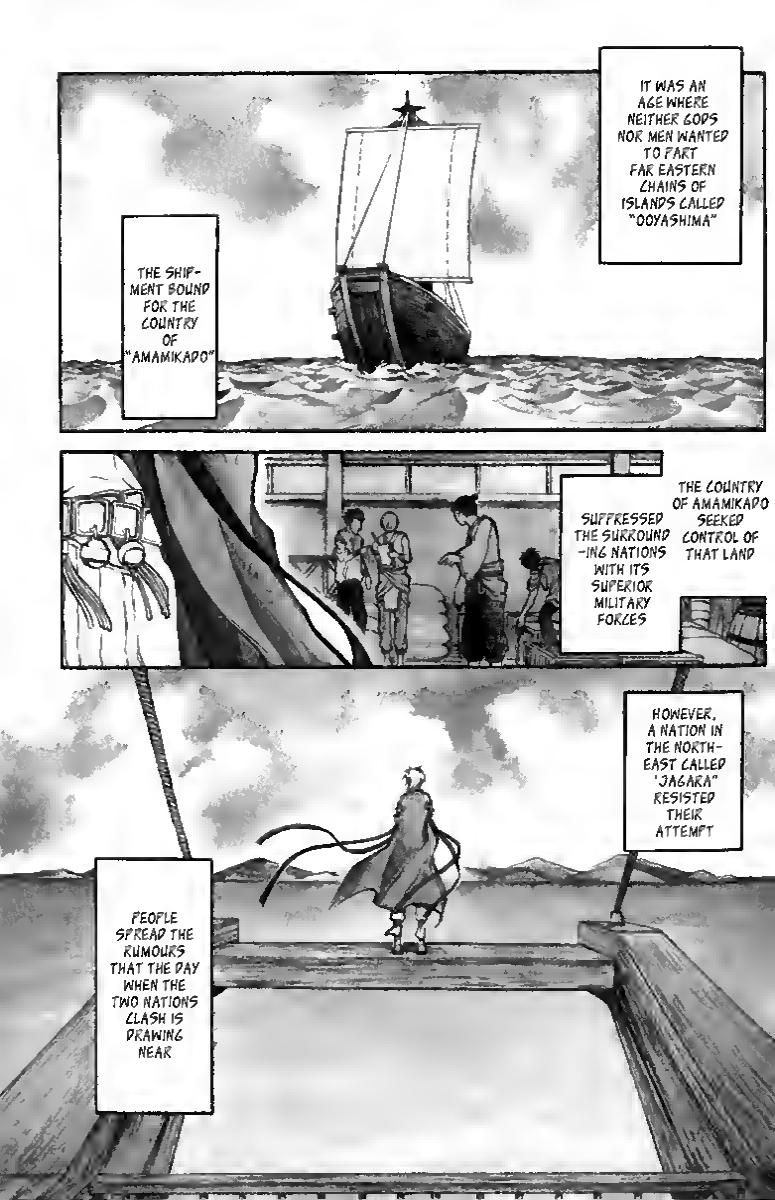
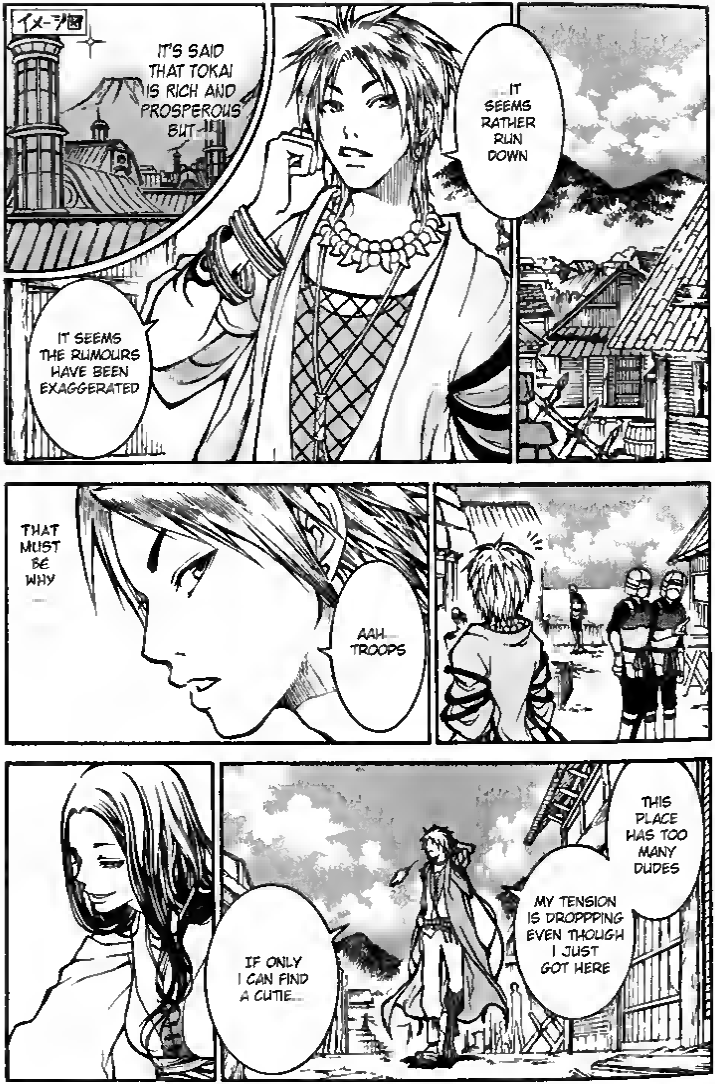
takeru
OPERA SUSANOH SWORD OF THE DEVIL
タケル
中島かずき×唐々煙
kazuki nakashima×karakuritenmure
1

#1 The day they met #2 Battle at Shihougara #3 Empress of Jagara #4 The three tests


IT WAS AN AGE WHERE NEITHER GODS NOR MEN WANTED TO FART
FAR EASTERN CHAINS OF ISLANDS CALLED "OOYASHIMA"
THE SHIPMENT BOUND FOR THE COUNTRY OF "AMAMIKADO"
THE COUNTRY OF AMAMIKADO SEEKED CONTROL OF THAT LAND
SUFFRESSED THE SURROUNDING NATIONS WITH ITS SUPERIOR MILITARY FORCES
HOWEVER, A NATION IN THE NORTH-EAST CALLED 'JAGARA' RESISTED THEIR ATTEMPT
PEOPLE SPREAD THE RUMOURS THAT THE DAY WHEN THE TWO NATIONS CLASH IS DRAWING NEAR

# #1 The day they met

SO THIS IS OOYASHIMA
IYAA... FINALLY GOT HERE
THE TIME FOR THE PROMISE HAS ARRIVED


イメージ図
IT'S SAID THAT TOKAI IS RICH AND PROSPEROUS BUT...
IT SEEMS RATHER RUN DOWN
IT SEEMS THE RUMOURS HAVE BEEN EXAGGERATED
THAT MUST BE WHY...
AAH... TROOPS
THIS PLACE HAS TOO MANY DUDES
MY TENSION IS DROPPPING EVEN THOUGH I JUST GOT HERE
IF ONLY I CAN FIND A CUTIE...

WELL, SORRY FOR THE DEPRESSIVE -NESS
TO BE ABLE TO MEET A BEAUTIFUL YOUNG WOMAN SUCH AS YOURSELF IN SUCH A DEPRESSING PLACE
MADEMOI-SELLE
VERY GLAD TO MEET YOU,
A HA HA
WHAT'S THE MATTER, KID? WE ARE BUSY RIGHT NOW, KIDDIE SHOULD GO HOME AND TAKE A NAP
THAT IS MY SON!
OUTSIDER, GET THE HELL OUT!
HMM?
OI!
HAVE YOU ALSO COME FOR THE WAR !!!
?!!
WA ...
you look just like your mum
YAA... WHAT A CUTE YOUNG MASTER

FU
DON'T YOU DARE TOUCH MY MUM! YOU SUSPICIOUS-LOOKING FELLA
HAVE YOU ALSO COME FOR THE WAR!?
GUAA
I SEE
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN I BETTER GET A MOVE ON QUICKLY
HMM?
GUAA
GUA

KAAAA
...I SEE
THIS IS THE END FOR YOU, ISN'T IT?
...IS IT REALLY PAINFUL
KAAAA
IN THAT CASE, I'LL...
OI OI, DON'T BE SO FAST-HANDED

THAT WAS DANGEROUS, IS THAT A THING TO DO SO SUDDENLY?
WHO ARE YOU?
DON'T BE IN SUCH HURRY
THIS BIRD IS STILL TRYING TO LIVE
もぞ
もぞ
!?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING!
NOW NOW
OI
!!

THIS IS WHAT WAS STUCK IN THE CROW'S THROAT AND SUCKING BLOOD
I POURED VINEGAR INSIDE WHICH THE BUG HATES,
SO IT CAME OUT
KUAA
!
KUAA
IT WAS KUSABI-MUSHI AFTER ALL
OW OW OW OW OW
AH?
OUCH! HUH? I SAVED YOU
THAT'S RIGHT! NOW, AREN'T YOU SUPPOSE TO THANK YOUR SAVIOUR?
KUAA
IS THAT SO
I GUESS IT'S FINE
I REALLY SHOULD HURRY AND GET THE MERCHANDISE
ほっ
...AH ??

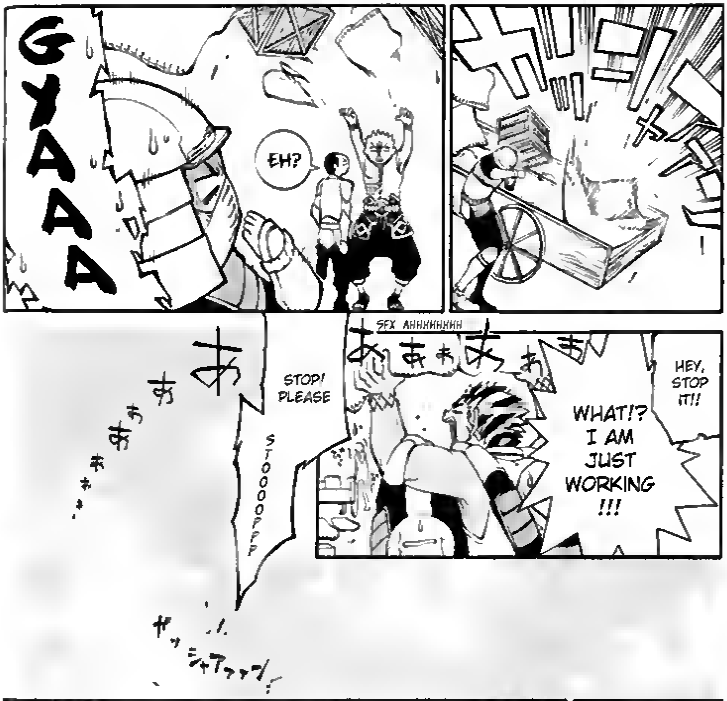
NONE?
WHAT THE HELL DO YOU MEAN YOU DON'T HAVE IT!?
BUT YOU DID CONFIRM IT IN YOUR LETTER
EVEN IF YOU SAY IT IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN NOW THAT I CROSSED THE OCEAN TO COME HERE?
SORRY, I REALLY WANTED TO SELL IT TO YOU, BUT...
WELL, LOOK AT THIS
IT'S GOING TO BE MEANINGLESS IF IT ISN'T IN PAIR!!
A LITTLE BOX THAT IS THE SAME AS THIS ONE
IT'D BE BETTER IF THAT WAS IT, BUT IT ISN'T
SOME RICH GUY BOUGHT ALL OF YOUR STUFFS?
YEAH
IT'S EMPTY

BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAS HAPPENED
THAT'S PRETTY MUCH IT
I HAVE BEEN IN EXPORT BUSINESS FOR MANY YEARS
IT WAS STOLEN ?
IS AMAMIKADO REALLY THAT STRONG?
MOST REGIONS OF OOYASHIMA ARE NOW UNDER FULL CONTROL OF AMAMIKADO
YOU DON'T KNOW IT YET
SOMEHOW THIS PLACE SEEMS DANGEROUS
ABSOLUTE POWER ENSURES NO BODY IS ABLE TO RESIST
THEY USE WEAPONS I HAVE NEVER SEEN BEFORE
YEAH, IT IS A LARGE COUNTRY WHICH EMPLOYS THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY

SO THE ONLY COUNTRY THAT RESISTS IS THE NATION OF JAGARA
THAT'S RIGHT
I HEARD THAT IT'S A COUNTRY RULED BY A FEMALE RULER WITH AN ARMY OF WOMEN IN THE FOREST NORTH-EAST FROM HERE
WOMEN!?
ANYWAY, HERE IS THE BOUNDARY OF THE TWO COUNTRIES
THEN I WOULD LOVE TO VISIT THERE ONCE ♡
...HMM

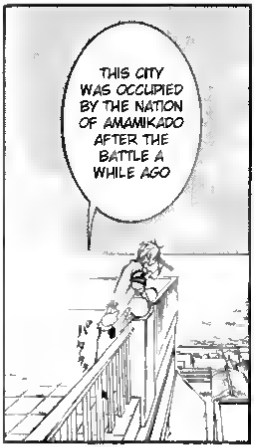
ざわっ
WH...
YOU CAN'T DO THAT TO US! WE CAN'T MAKE A LIVING LIKE THAT
THAT'S RUBB-ISH!!
WELL DONE EVERY-BODY
THE AMAMIKADO NATION SHALL NOW SEIZE THE ENTIRE CARGO OF THIS SHIP
SHUT UP!!
THIS PORT IS NOW UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF GENERAL FUDARU
DA
IT'S OK
YOU, CARRY THEM OUT QUICKLY!
ANYONE WHO RESISTS SHALL RECEIVE DEATH PENALTY!!
LET ME GO, MUM!
NO
TAKE THAT WOMAN ALONG AS WELL

YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING
EH!?
THAT'S TERRIBLE
HEY, NEWBIE OVER THERE
CARRY THEM AWAY NOW
IS YOUR STRONG BODY JUST FOR SHOW OR WHAT?
HUH?


GYAAA
EH?
SFX AHHHHHHH
HEY, STOP IT!!
WHAT!? I AM JUST WORKING !!!
STOP! PLEASE
STOOOPPP

THIS IS A NICE VIEW

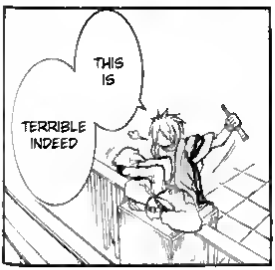
THE SOLDIERS ARE NOW SEIZING IT
HOW ABOUT THE NEW CARGO?
AS LONG AS WE HAVE THIS PORT UNDER CONTROL, UNIMAGINABLE RICHNESS SHALL BE YOURS, FUDARU-SAMA
AND THE TREASURES FROM BEYOND THE SEA ARE BROUGHT IN
THE PORT OF TOKAI LEADS TO SHIKAI
I'M SO SORRY, SIR
AH
HEHE... I WONDER WHAT KIND OF TREASURE I WOULD GET THIS TIME
HAND ME THE DRINK
.....
YOU STUPID BITCH !!!


THIS CITY WAS OCCUPIED BY THE NATION OF AMAMIKADO AFTER THE BATTLE A WHILE AGO

SO THAT FATSO IS THE CULPRIT
OH I SEE

SO WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR MUST ALSO BE IN THAT TREASURE HOUSE..

SINCE THAT GENERAL FUDARU BECAME THE RULER OF THIS CITY, THINGS HAVE BEEN ABSURD
HE'S BEEN COLLECTING ALL THE RICHNESS IN THE CITY AS HE PLEASES


THIS IS TERRIBLE INDEED

THAT'S RIGHT

THIS IS NOT FOR SALE
JUST A LITTLE BIT
NO
WHAT A TRAVELLER YOU ARE
YOU HAVE QUITE AN AMAZING TUBE THAT CAN SEE THAT FAR
...EH
WHOA
WHAT'S GOING ON?
THAT GUY...

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
NAME YOUR PRICE
SO PER-SIS-TENT!
I'D PAY A LOT FOR THAT TUBE
I'LL NEVER SELL IT
IF YOU TOOK SOMETHING BY FORCE
THEN YOU CAN'T COMPLAIN IF IT'S TAKEN BACK BY FORCE

HEY, YOU'RE FINE ALREADY?
LET'S SEE
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?
I DON'T THINK I SHOULD BARGE IN FROM THE FRONT DOOR
hmm
だだだだだだ
SFX: DADADADADADA

APOLO-GISE!
hey you there
OW !!
GONK
GIVE ME BACK MY MUM
YOU
I SEE YOU WANT TO DISOBEY THE ARMY OF AMAMIKADO YOU BRAT..
THAT BRAT..
RUN
GO AHEAD AND KILL HIM!!

LET'S NOT DO SUCH THING
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? MOVE!
HUH?
?
GRAB

RUN
EH?
TAKE YOUR MUM AND GO
!!

HERE IS THE ENLIST-MENT MONEY
I ENLISTED FOR MONEY, BUT
YOUR MEANS IS SHIT, I QUIT!

ARE YOU BETRAY-ING US!?
I GUESS THAT'S WHAT I'M DOING
WHAT!?

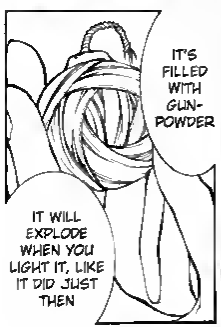
GOOD ENOUGH, COME!

KILL HIM
DON'T MESS WITH THE AMAMI-KADO ARMY

!
...GUESS I'LL DO WHAT I CAN
...BUT THEN AGAIN, IT'S A BIT TOO MUCH
...WHAT THE HELL IS THIS
WAAAAAA!
WHAT WAS THAT!?
IS IT THUN-DER!?
EHHH, HEY!
WHO ARE YOU!?
WE'LL RUN IN THIS CONFUSION
!?

JUST A PASSERBY WHO FELL FOR YOUR CHIVALRY
—A HAZARDOUS PASSERBY, I SEE
COME, YOU WON'T REGRET IT
FINE

UGH
HOP
HOP
HOW CONVENIENT, WE'LL HIDE IN HERE FOR NOW
HOP


IT'S FILLED WITH GUN-POWDER
IT WILL EXPLODE WHEN YOU LIGHT IT, LIKE IT DID JUST THEN

IS THAT THUNDER OVER THERE?
IT'S NOT THUNDER, IT'S HOUROKU-DAMA
HOU-ROKU ?

IN SEARCH OF THE GOD'S TREASURE
YEAH, I CAME TO OOYASHIMA FROM THE CONTINENT

ARE YOU A TRAVEL-LER?
IT HASN'T BEEN USED MUCH IN THIS COUNTRY YET

MANY DON'T BELIEVE IT EXISTS
BUT IF YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE
IT'S MORE INTERESTING TO BELIEVE THAT IT DOES
YOU'RE STRANGE
GOD'S TREASURE?
SUCH THING EXISTS?
THERE MIGHT BE
HUH? YOU DON'T KNOW?

I CAME HERE BECAUSE I HEARD THE OTHER BOX WAS HERE
WHEN IT BECOMES A PAIR, THEN WE WILL KNOW WHERE THE TREASURE IS
THERE IS ANOTHER BOX LIKE THIS ONE

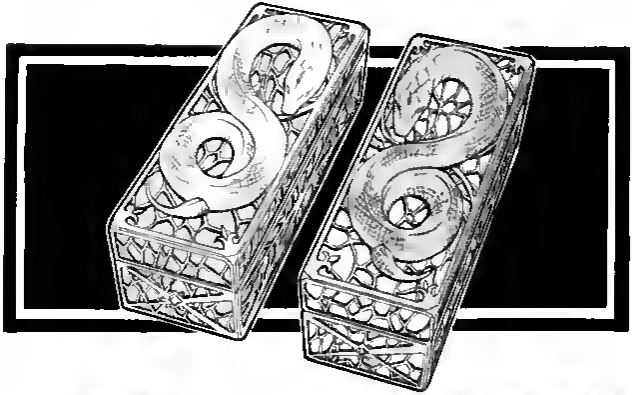
...DON'T TELL ME THAT'S WHY YOU HELPED ME OUT BEFORE
メモ十
HOW ABOUT IT? WOULD YOU HELP ME OUT?
OF COURSE ♡
IS IT OK FOR YOU TO TELL ME SUCH THINGS? WE'VE JUST MET YOU KNOW
ONE WHO BETRAYS WILL BETRAY, NO MATTER HOW CLOSE YOU GET
DO YOU TRUST STRANGERS THAT EASILY?
HOWEVER, THAT FATSO FUDARU ROBBED IT
IT IS REALLY IRRITATING, SO I AM PLANNING TO ROB IT BACK

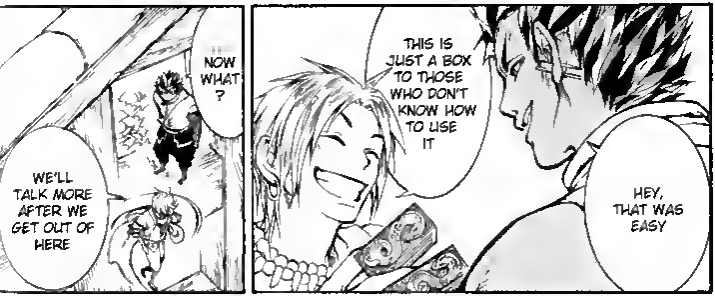
NOPE
I HAVE FAITH IN MYSELF
AND MY GUT FEELINGS
I KNEW YOU'D SAY THAT
I DON'T MIND A MAN LIKE YOU
...YOU GOT ME THERE
LET'S SEE, THE EARLIER THE BETTER
WHEN DO YOU WANT TO HIT IT?
I GUESS I OWE YOU ONE ANYWAY
ALL RIGHT! THIS IS GETTING INTERES-TING!!!

TONIGHT
...OH, THERE ARE GUARDS
YOU CAN JUST KNOCK THEM OUT
you would think
WHAT?
DON

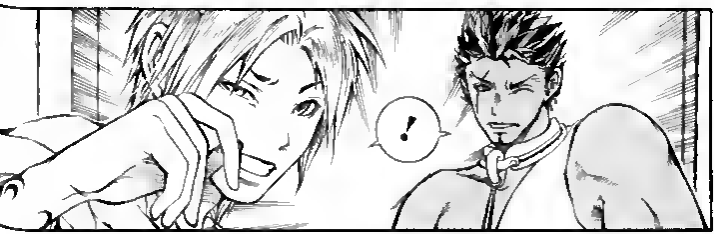
...HE IS SO GREEDY
THAT FUDARU GUY
THAT'S AMAZING
THE MOONLIGHT IS MORE THAN ENOUGH
YEAH, I WORK ON MY NIGHT VISION
YOU CAN SEE WHAT'S INSIDE?
I REALLY CAN'T SEE A THING
HELP ME LOOK INSTEAD OF GOOFING OFF
HEEEYYY!!!

DON'T TAKE ANYTHING EXTRA
OR YOU'LL JUST BE A ROBBER AS WELL
OH ♡
BECAUSE OF YOU
HUH? WHY FRET FOR?
YOU'RE SURPRISINGLY HONEST
?
THIS IS IT
DID YOU FIND IT?
YEP, WE GOT LUCKY



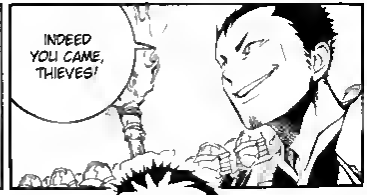

NOW WHAT ?
WE'LL TALK MORE AFTER WE GET OUT OF HERE
THIS IS JUST A BOX TO THOSE WHO DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE IT
HEY, THAT WAS EASY

I'M GETTING THE HANG OF YOU NOW
ALRIGHT! LET'S GET GOING THEN


!

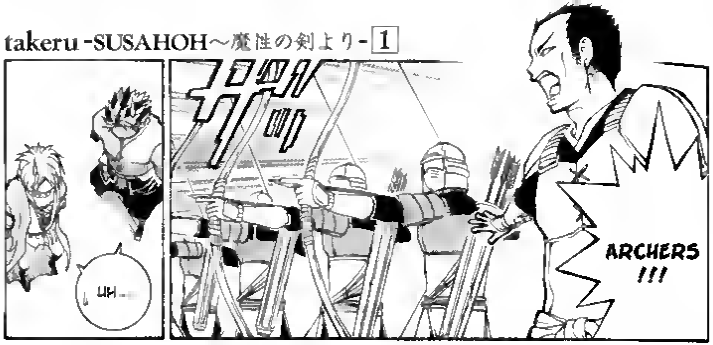
OH?

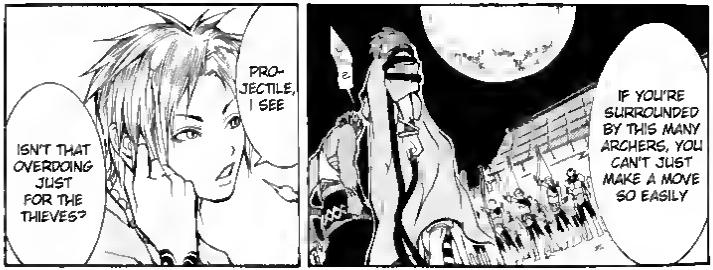
IT'LL BE FINE, NO NEED TO FRET
OOPS
IT'S YOU


INDEED YOU CAME, THIEVES!

JUST LIKE WHAT I TOLD YOU, ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
A TRAVELLER IS SEEKING YOUR TREASURE
YOU HAVE SOME GUTS SNEAKING INTO THIS FUDARU'S MANSION
RIGHT. GOOD THAT YOU WARNED ME ABOUT IT. YOU SHALL BE REWARDED WITH WHATEVER YOU WANT

GREEDY OLD MAN ...
WELL THEN,
I WANT THE LOOK-THROUGH TUBE THAT HE HAS...
SORRY
DOESN'T YOUR GUT FEELING TELL YOU ABOUT BETRAYAL?
YEAH
YOU KNOW HIM?
I LIKE THAT STRAIGHT FORWARD THINKING OF YOURS
THAT'S FINE
WE'LL JUST RUN THEM OVER WITH BRUTE FORCE


ARCHERS !!!
UH...


PRO-JECTILE, I SEE
ISN'T THAT OVERDOING JUST FOR THE THIEVES?
IF YOU'RE SURROUNDED BY THIS MANY ARCHERS, YOU CAN'T JUST MAKE A MOVE SO EASILY

EVEN HIS LAUGHTER IS SO IRRITATING
WE HAVE TO SHOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THOSE WHO DISOBEY
THE ARMY OF AMAMIKADO NATION AND FUDARU
IT'S TERROR THAT RULES THE PEOPLE
FIRE !!!
EEK !?

MAN... THAT WAS CLOSE!
SO, WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
FORCE OUR WAY THROUGH
YOU THINK SO TOO?
I DON'T WANT TO DRAW MY SWORD IF I CAN HELP IT
SFX: MWAHAHA

IT'S OVER, FUDARU
SHAME ON YOU AS A WARRIOR
Y YOU ARE...!?

FUDARU -SAMA
EHH
SHIT
FIRE!
うおおお
おおお
EAT THIS !!

HEY!
AAAAAA
ゴ
バ
OHH
CAPTAIN!
SHIT!

I FOUND A GOOD ONE ♡

!
UH OH
Fudiru -sama
GOTCHA!
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DIE, THEN FOLLOW ME

ONEECHAN

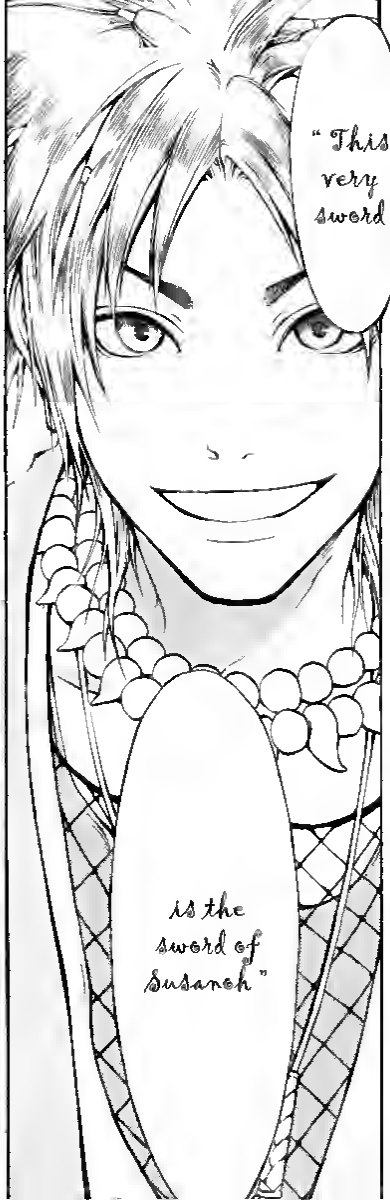
GOT IT, WELL DONE!
WE ARE MORE OR LESS PREPPING FOR THE WAR
ONEECHAN?

THANKS FOR SAVING US
A TOKEN OF THANKS FOR YOUR CROW?
NO MORE PURSUERS
THEY'RE JUST A MOB WITHOUT FUDARU
KID
I SAW YOU KEEPING WATCH ON FUDARU'S MANSION
I SEE
...HOW DID YOU KNOW THAT IT'S ME?
WHY DID YOU WANT TO KILL HIM?
WAS IT YOUR MISSION?
NO NEED FOR YOU TO KNOW
I ACTUALLY WANT TO KNOW
IF YOU TAKE ON THOSE KIND OF RISKY MISSIONS, I HAVE A REQUEST
REQ-UEST ?

I WANT YOUR SKILL
WOULD YOU JOIN US?
HEY HOLD IT! WHO ARE "US"!?
YOU'RE JOINING ME, RIGHT?
EH ...
JUST WATCH THIS
HUH? A LID ...?

"The light, the water and the earth". By these three spirits,
the sword shall be awakened and shall never know destruction
The fierce sword of the God
rests in Jagara-Mogara

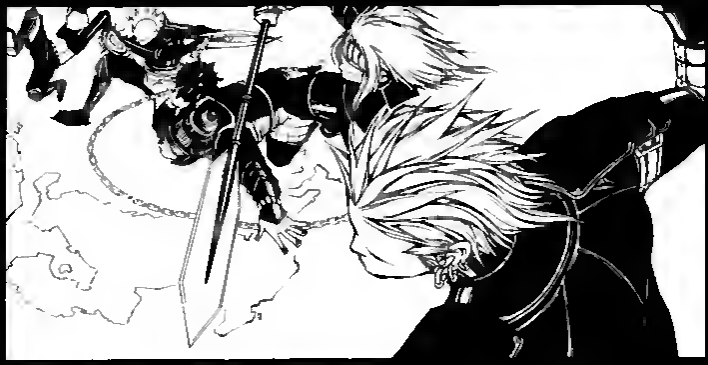
IT DISAPPEA-RED
ARE THOSE CHARACT-ERS...?
YEAH, THESE ARE THE CHARACTERS THAT THE ANCIENT PEOPLE USED
GOD'S TREASURE ...THE SWORD OF SUSANOH
STILL, JAGARA-MOGARA IS...
...HUH?
IT IS PROBABLY THE NATION OF JAGARA


"This very sword
is the sword of Susanoh"

THE REASON WHY THIS NATION IS STILL RESISTING AGAINST AMAMIKADO IS
BECAUSE THEY HAVE THE POWER OF THIS DIVINE SWORD
THAT'S WHAT I THINK
...I'M NOT CHEAP
YEAH !?
HOW ABOUT IT?
...VERY INTEREST -ING
THIS IS THE DEPOSIT
AGH
SO YOU DID POCKET SOME!
THAT'S FROM FUDARU WARE-HOUSE!
DON'T BE SO TIGHT

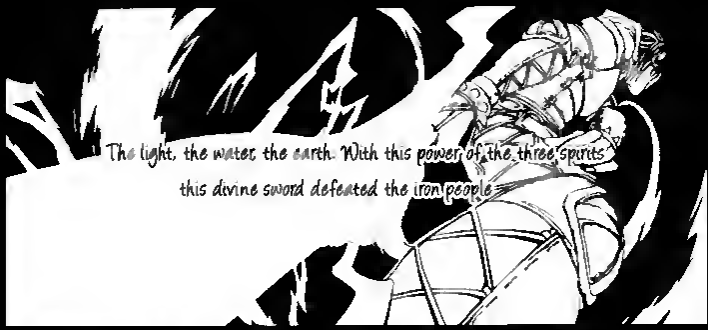
I AM IZUMO NO TAKERU
HEH, I'M ALSO TAKERU
KUMASO NO TAKERU
.....I'M OGUNA
OGUNA NO TAKERU
THIS IS GOOD, SO IT'S TRIO OF TAKERU

Once upon a time, the iron people assaulted archipelago with a dragon resting beneath



The iron swords defeated everyone on the island
And as the iron people readied themselves to burn down the forests

The sword of Susanoh awakened



The light, the water, the earth. With this power of the three spirits
this divine sword defeated the iron people

The island people held the sword as the sword of the forest god in awe and reverence

1

Once there is a legend of a sword
It says that the sword of a rude god was
sealed up in JAGARA MOGARA
When spilt of these tree Light Water and Earth
meet together the seal will breaK then the sword
was immortalize
That is the sword of SUSANOH
This is a tale who was fascinated by the
sword of SUSANOH

# 中島かずき×唐々煙

kazuki nakashima×karakarakemuri presents

タケル —SUSANOH~魔性の剣(劇団☆新感線)より—

# takeru

## OPERA SUSANOH SWORD OF THE DEVIL

BLADE COMICS

takeru タケル —SUSANOH 魔性の剣(劇団☆新感線)より—

OPERA SUSANOH SWORD OF THE DEVIL

1

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kazuki nakashima×karakarakemuri presents

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マッグガーデン

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takeru

OPERA SUSANOH SWORD OF THE DEVIL

# Snow Kiss

#snow-kiss@mchighway

## takeru

Nakajima Kazuki
& Kurokura Kenjuro

| | |
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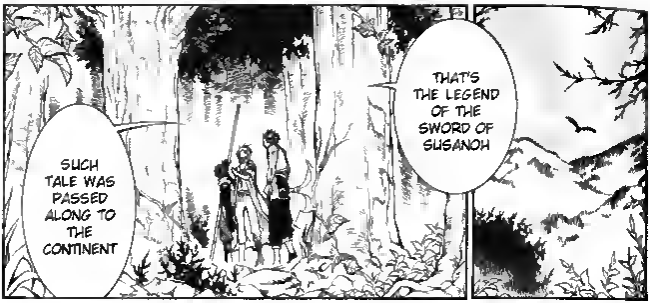
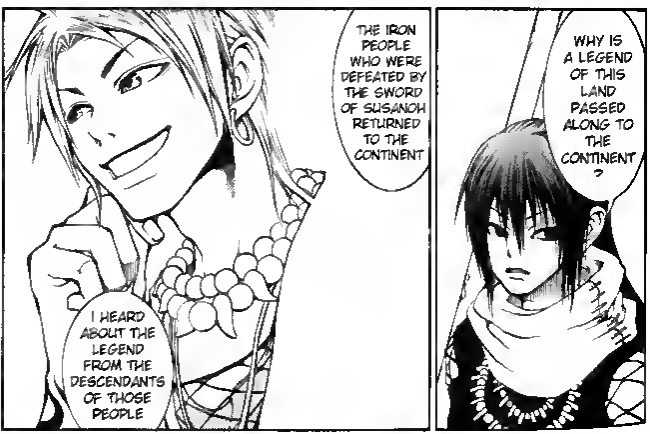
# #2 Battle at Yomogahara


SUCH TALE WAS PASSED ALONG TO THE CONTINENT
THAT'S THE LEGEND OF THE SWORD OF SUSANOH


I HEARD ABOUT THE LEGEND FROM THE DESCENDANTS OF THOSE PEOPLE
THE IRON PEOPLE WHO WERE DEFEATED BY THE SWORD OF SUSANOH RETURNED TO THE CONTINENT
WHY IS A LEGEND OF THIS LAND PASSED ALONG TO THE CONTINENT ?

I WONDER IF IT'S REALLY THERE IN THAT PLACE
WHAT WE SHOULD DO FIRST IS TO ENTER JAGARA
I STILL DO NOT QUITE GET IT, BUT
I SUPPOSE IT MAKES SENSE

I HEARD THAT THE EMPRESS OF JAGARA IS QUITE A BEALITY
THAT ALONE IS A GOOD ENOUGH REASON FOR US TO GO
THE REASON WHY THEY CAN RESIST AMAMIKADO THAT HAS SUPERIOR MILITARY POWER
IS BECAUSE THEY HAVE SOME SECRETS
WHAT WILL YOU DO IF IT DOESN'T EXIST?
ZU!
YOU'RE GOING FOR WOMEN?
I LIKE BEAUTIES!
YEAH, YEAH!
YOU'RE SUCH A CUTE KID
YOUR PARENTS WILL BE DISAPPOIN-TED
DON'T GET SO ANGRY ♡
DON'T TOUCH ME

BE QUIET, YOU MUSCLE GORILLA
OH? WHO ARE YOU CALLING A GORILLA?

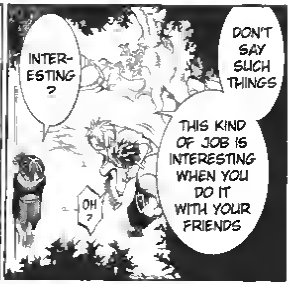
COME ON NOW, TAKE A DEEP BREATH
IZUMO! YOU
HE WILL THINK YOU'RE INTOLERANT IF YOU LOSE IT OVER SUCH SMALL THING

CALM DOWN

I WILL WORK, SINCE I RECEIVED THE COMPEN-SATION
HOWEVER, I NEVER SAID I WILL WORK WITH YOU TWO

BESIDES THAT, YOGUNA!
YOU QUESTION TOO MUCH
THIS IS A JOB YOU TOOK, SO WHY DON'T YOU JUST SUCK IT UP AND TAG ALONG?

YEP TO ME, BOTH YOU AND KUMASO ARE
QUITE INTEREST-ING


DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS
THIS KIND OF JOB IS INTERESTING WHEN YOU DO IT WITH YOUR FRIENDS
INTER-ESTING ?
OH ?

flick
YOU'RE SO SILLY

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?

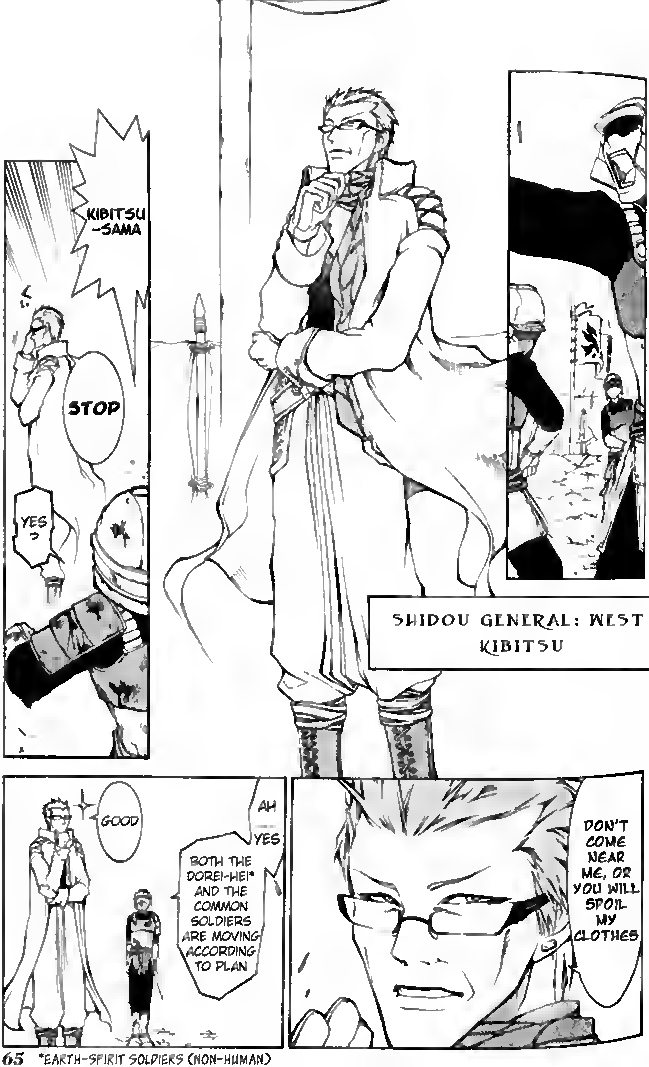
IT IS INTERESTING BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW

JUNG
THEY'RE JUST ENJOY-ING THIS
OH, YOU'RE SO COLD
NOT EVEN WOR-TH ARGU-ING
YEP, YEP
YOU'RE INTERESTING BECAUSE IT'S EASY TO FIGURE YOU OUT
IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME AS LONG AS IT'S INTERESTING
...I SUPPOSE THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO BE SLACKING OFF
SFX: CROWD ROARING

SFX: CROWD ROARING

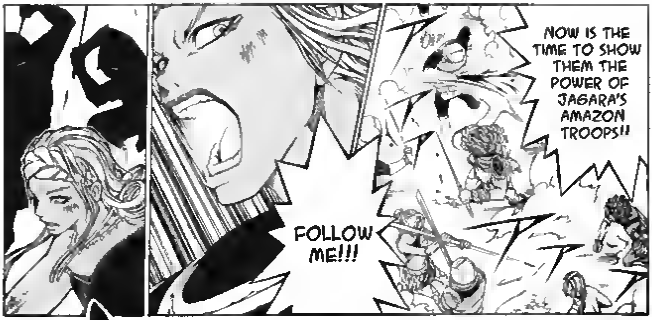
SFX: CROWD ROARING
WHOA

AMAMI-KADO TROOPS, AND
MAINLY THE FEMALE SOLDIERS OVER THERE
SO THAAAT'S THE JAGARA♡ TROOPS THAT I KEPT HEARING ABOUT
THIS ISN'T GOOD, THE BATTLE HAS ALREADY BEGUN, BETWEEN
THIS IS YOMOGA-HARA
THE FIRST DEFENSIVE LINE OF JAGARA
YOU SEEM TO KNOW WELL
IT'S QUITE ENCOU-RAGING, VERY GOOD ♡
whack whack
.....
stare




 *EARTH-SPIRIT SOLDIERS (NON-HUMAN)

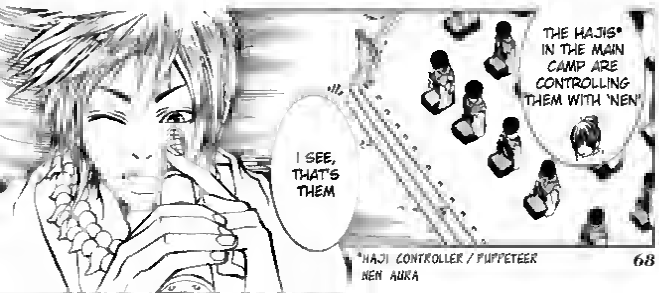
.....
NOW
LET'S SEE THE CAPABILITY OF JAGARA
LISTEN UP! DO NOT LET AMAMIKADO TAKE A STEP BEYOND HERE!
JAGARA FEMALE GENERAL
ADA


NOW IS THE TIME TO SHOW THEM THE POWER OF JAGARA'S AMAZON TROOPS!!
FOLLOW ME!!!

SFX CHINK

SHIT...
SPURT

AMAMIKADO HAS BEEN OVERPOWERING OTHER COUNTRIES OF OOYASHIMA WITH THOSE
YOU'RE TELLING ME THESE CLAY DOLLS CAN MOVE?
THOSE ARE CLAY FIGURES CREATED WITH THE EXTRACTED ESSENCE OF THE DEAD
FROM THE SOIL THAT IS SOAKED WITH THEIR BLOOD




*HAJI CONTROLLER / PUPPETEER
NEN AURA

MAN... THIS IS A NASTY BATTLE
BUT THIS BATTLE FORMA-TION IS...
YEAH...
カシュ
I...
IT ALMOST LOOKS LIKE IT IS A FIGHT SO THAT THEY CAN RETREAT
HUH?
I'M TALKING ABOUT AMAMI-KADO
DON'T YOU THINK THEY LOOK HESITANT?
.....
WHAT ARE THEY INTEND-ING TO DO...!

GENERAL ADA!
DON'T WORRY
JABARA'S BATTLES ONLY GET REAL AFTER IT SEES SOME BLOOD

ざわ
WH... WHAT IS THAT ...!?
!
..THERE WE GO

IT IS QUITE AN IMPRESSIVE SIGHT
BLOOD RAINBOW

THAT IS AMAZ-ING!
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THAT
SO THAT IS THE POWER OF JAGARA
WHOOSH
THUD
AHHHHHH!!?
IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE MISTAKEN FOR AN AMBUSH
WHAT THE HELL!?
I GUESS WE CAN'T ALWAYS BE ONLOOKERS IN LIFE

THAT WAS CLOSE! WATCH OUT, DAMN IT!!
HEHE HOW WAS IT? THIS KUMASO -SAMA'S...
WHOA?
FWIP
HEEEEY !!!
JOIN IN AND FIGHT!
YOU! WHY ARE YOU JUST LOOKING AT US FIGHT? HEY!!
STARE.....
THIS THING STILL MOVES...?
AH?

THWACK
THEY AREN'T EASY
whoosh
tap
IF IT'S CONTROLLED BY "NEN"
FOUND IT ♡

DALP
HMM

RETREAT THE DOREI SOLDIERS
YES
SFX ROARING
THEY'RE JUST MERCENA -RIES FOR HIRE
YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT WE CANNOT COMPARE THEM TO THE DOREI SOLDIERS WE RECEIVED FROM OOKIM!
WE WILL RETREAT AS WELL, TELL THE NORMAL SOLDIERS TO STOP JAGARA
ARE YOU DESERTING THE NORMAL SOLDIERS?
YES
RIGHT AWAY, SIR
BUT, BUT SIR
DID YOU NOT HEAR ME?

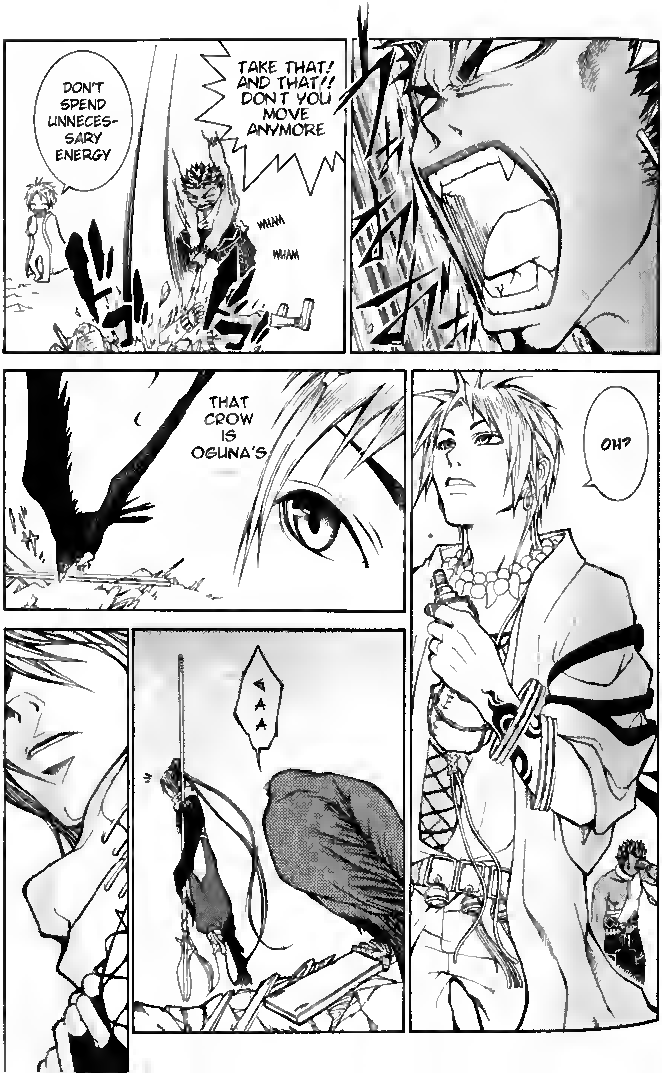
.....THE PURPOSE OF THIS BATTLE HAS BEEN ACHIEVED
SFX: ROARING

SLASH
STOMP
CONK
CONK
GRAB
OGUNA !!!
clap clap
HEY, GREAT JOB, VERY GOOD
Ah?
THUD

I SAID LET GO
whoosh
LET GO
WHAT WERE YOU THINKING, JUST SITTING THERE?
Alright, that's enough
"I CAN'T RELY ON YOU IN BATTLES IF YOU CAN'T EVEN DEFEAT THESE GUYS"
THAT'S WHAT HE THOUGHT, AND THAT'S WHY HE WATCHED
Eh..
BESIDES, KUMASO NO TAKERU DOES NOT REQUIRE ANY HELP FOR SUCH THINGS, AM I RIGHT?
WELL, I GUESS SO
I DO NOT
RELY ON ANYONE
WHAT DID YOU SAY !?

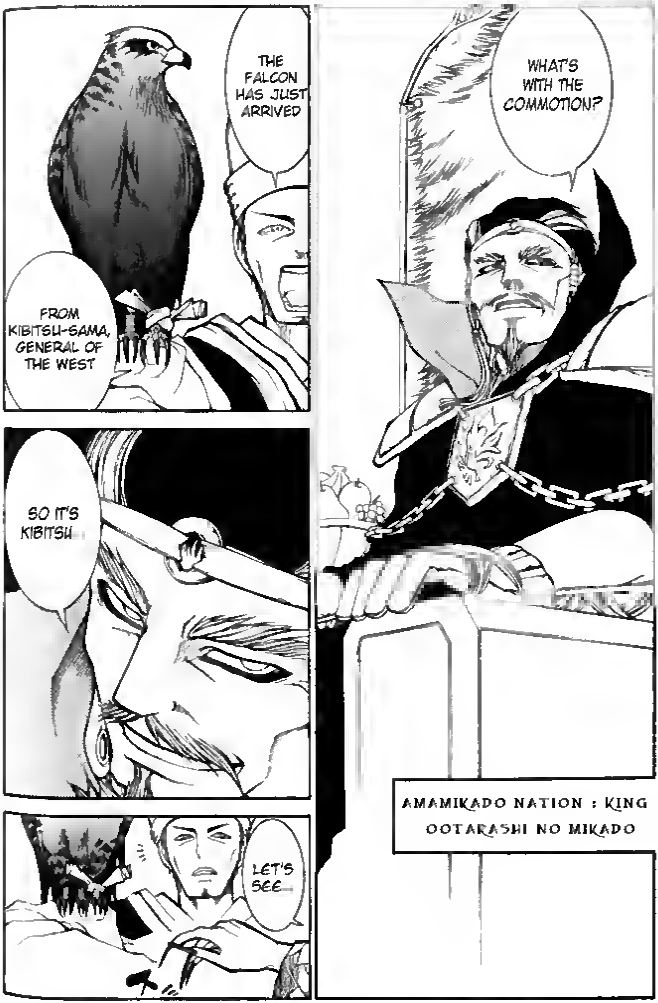
A CURSE SYMBOL WAS INSCRIBED THERE,
SO I THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE IT
Hey you!
HOW DID YOU KNOW THE FOREHEADS WERE THE WEAKNESSES?
.....
Hey listen!
I SEE
YOU SEEM TO KNOW REALLY WELL ABOUT AMAMIKADO'S ARMAMENTS
HEY, IT LOOKS LIKE THE BATTLE IS OVER
IT'S GOOD TO HAVE SOMEONE WHO KNOWS WELL
WELL, DOESN'T MATTER

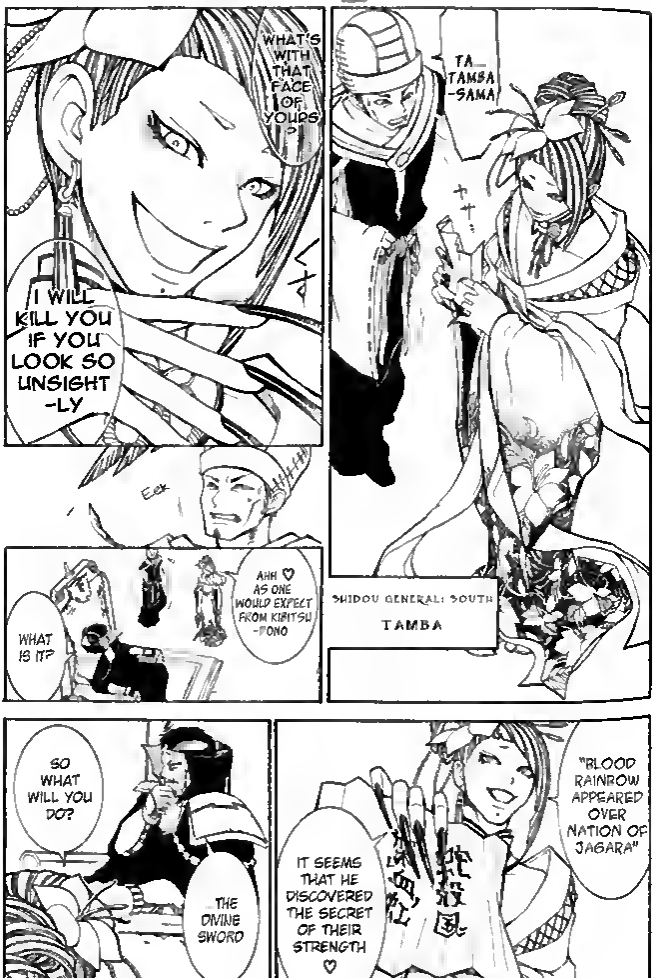
GENERAL ADA, ARE YOU INJURED!?
YES
NOTHING SERIOUS, GO TEND TO THE OTHERS
I SENSE SOMETHING FISHY


DON'T SPEND UNNECESSARY ENERGY
TAKE THAT! AND THAT!! DON'T YOU MOVE ANYMORE
WHAM
WHAM
THAT CROW IS OGUNA'S
OH?
AAA

TUG
!...
CHIRP
AAA

NATION OF AMAMIKADO


THE FALCON HAS JUST ARRIVED
FROM KIBITSU-SAMA, GENERAL OF THE WEST
WHAT'S WITH THE COMMOTION?
SO IT'S KIBITSU...
LET'S SEE...
AMAMIKADO NATION : KING OOTARASHI NO MIKADO


WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE OF YOURS!?
I WILL KILL YOU IF YOU LOOK SO UNSIGHT -LY
TA- TAMBA -SAMA
SHIDOU GENERAL: SOUTH
TAMBA
AHH ♡ AS ONE WOULD EXPECT FROM KIRITSU -FUNO
WHAT IS IT?
SO WHAT WILL YOU DO?
THE DIVINE SWORD
IT SEEMS THAT HE DISCOVERED THE SECRET OF THEIR STRENGTH ♡
"BLOOD RAINROW APPEARED OVER NATION OF JAGARA"

AS YOU SAY
DON'T YOU THINK SO, TAMBA?
YOU CAN BE A KING ONLY IF YOU CAN BRING EVEN GOD INTO SUBMISSION

# Snow Kiss

#snow-kiss@mchighway

## takeru

Nakajima Kazuki
& Kurakura Kenjuro

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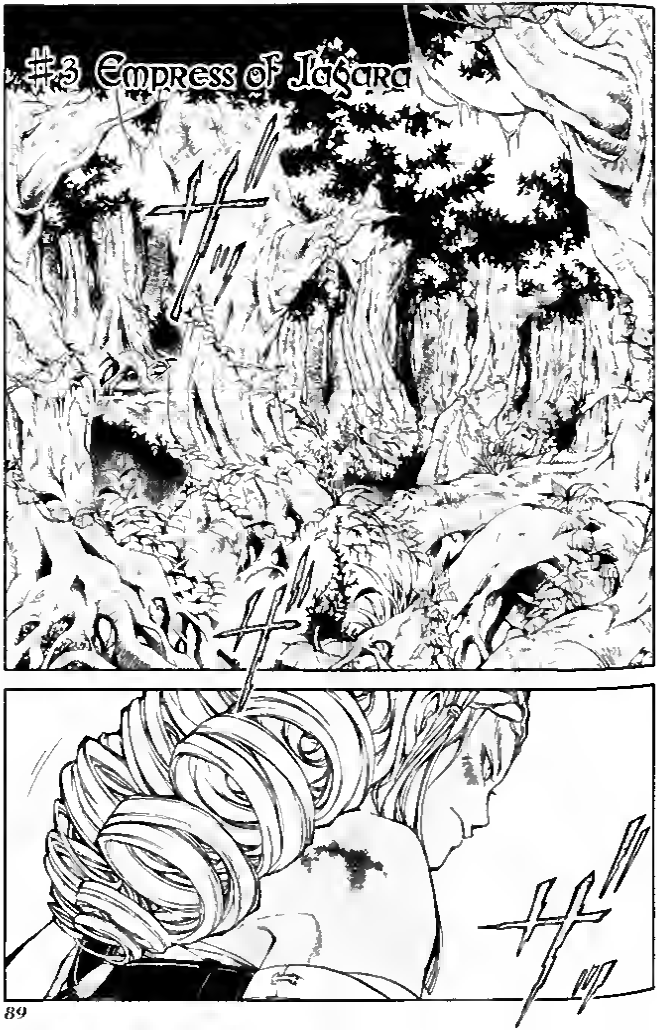
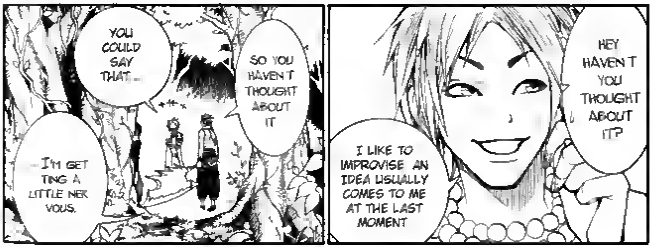
#1 The day they met #2 Battle at Yomogahara #3 Empress of Iagara #4 The three tests

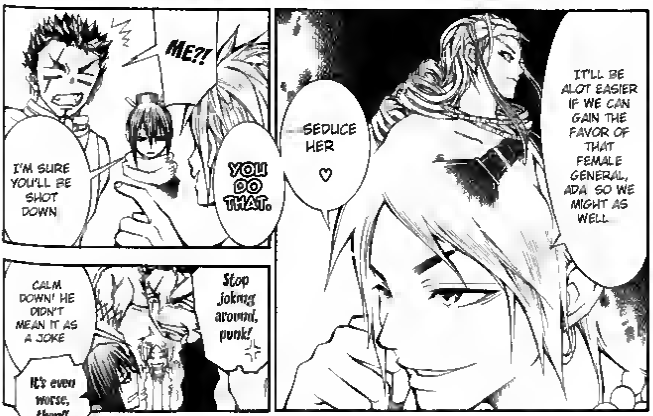

#3 Empress of Jagara

IT'S LIKE A MAZE
IT MAKES SENSE THAT THIS IS THE LAST DEFENSIVE LINE OF JAGARA
THE QUESTION IS, HOW ARE WE GOING TO APPROACH THEM?
I WAS RIGHT TO FOLLOW THEM
WE WOULD NOT HAVE MADE IT ON OUR OWN TO JAGARA

Hey, don't go too far ahead! I'll get lost!
DON'T GET LOST WHEN YOU'RE THIS CLOSE TO US.
THERE'S REALLY ONLY TREES HERE.
YEAH, BECAUSE IT'S A FOREST.
JUST HOW LONG ARE WE PLANNING ON FOLLOWING THESE PEOPLE AROUND?
THIS IS THE "FOREST OF DECEPTION"
THE ONLY ONES THAT CAN NAVIGATE THIS LABYRINTH-LIKE FOREST ARE THE PEOPLE OF JAGARA..
ISN'T SO?
YEAH
IS THAT ALL THIS GUY KNOWS?

HE'S INCREDIBLY QUIET...
IT TOOK ME HALF A DAY TO FIND OUT THAT MUCH
SO WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO? DO YOU HAVE ANY PLANS?
I KIND OF HAVE ONE... IT'S HARD TO SAY...
EH, I GUESS WE'LL SEE...


HEY HAVEN'T YOU THOUGHT ABOUT IT?
I LIKE TO IMPROVISE AN IDEA USUALLY COMES TO ME AT THE LAST MOMENT
SO YOU HAVEN'T THOUGHT ABOUT IT
YOU COULD SAY THAT...
I'M GETTING A LITTLE NERVOUS.


IT'LL BE ALOT EASIER IF WE CAN GAIN THE FAVOR OF THAT FEMALE GENERAL, ADA SO WE MIGHT AS WELL...
SEDUCE HER ♡
ME?!
YOU DO THAT.
I'M SURE YOU'LL BE SHOT DOWN
Stop joking around, punk!
CALM DOWN! HE DIDN'T MEAN IT AS A JOKE
It's even worse, then!!

WHO'S THERE?
DID SHE NOTICE US?!
CRAP
WHY DO YOU FOLLOW US SECRETLY?
COME OUT!
WOOSH
NO

WOOSH
CRUNCH
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
CRUNCH
SHUFFLE

ガッ
YOU'RE DRESSED RATHER STRANGE
ARE YOU SOLDIERS OF AMAMI-KADO?
I DON'T CARE FOR HIM, EITHER.
THEY SEEM TOO DANGEROUS TO JUST BE FIELD WARRIORS
THIS ISN'T GOOD
H-Hey!
DON'T MOVE FROM HERE

WH
WHO
ARE
YOU?!
!?
SLASH
HM.
I AM AMAMIK-ADO'S WORST ENEMY.
WORST ENEMY, I SEE...
WHAT IS HE DOING?
DOES HE ACTUALLY NEED THAT MASK?!

REASONS? WHAT THE HECK DO YOU MEAN BY THAT??
I DON'T KNOW THE DETAILS
BUT THERE AREN'T THAT MANY THAT SEEM AS CORNERED AS HIM
HE SEEMS TO HAVE HIS REASONS...
DO I SEEM THAT WAY?
YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, ALWAYS SEEM TO BE AT EASE
.....

OH, I SEE!
AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT COMETH SO IT SEEMS...
WE'LL CURRY FAVOUR WITH THE JAGARA...
HUH?
I DON'T REALLY LIKE PLAYING ROUGH BUT I GUESS I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
RAWR!
うがぁぁぁ
DASH!
I CAN'T LET THAT GUY HOG ALL THE GLORY!!!
IF THAT'S THE CASE, LEAVE IT TO ME!
HE'S QUITE...
...SIMPLE.

WHAAAT?!
BE CAREFUL. THEY'VE APPLIED POISON TO THEIR BLADES.
CRACK

I TOLD YOU NOT TO MOVE
THAT WAS CLOSE! TELL ME THAT EARLIER!

!?
CLICK
WHAM

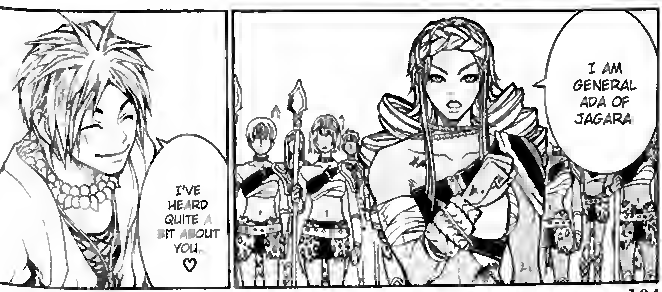
WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE WATCHING YOUR OWN BACK?
...HMPH
YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO DO THAT.
GE GENERAL ADA!
WHO ARE THOSE--
HUH?
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THEM?

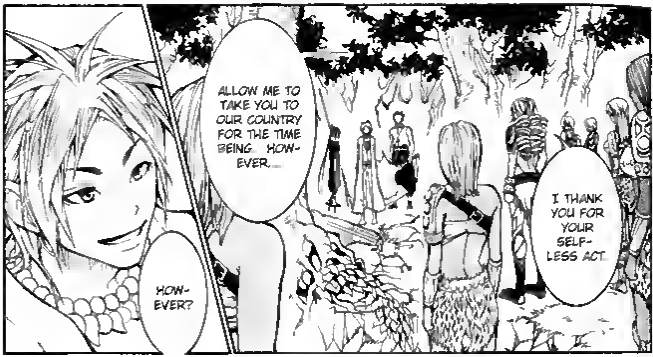
THEIR SWIFTNESS IN EXPLOITING THE ENEMIES' BLIND SPOTS
THEIR POWER TO EASILY SUBDUE THE ENEMIES' ATTACKS
THEIR FLEXIBILITY OF WITS TO CONFUSE THEM
THEY ARE STRONG
THEY MIGHT BE THE

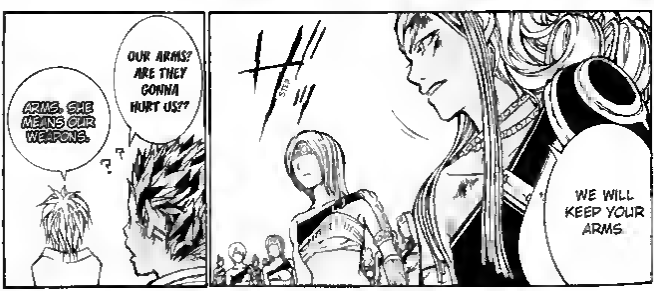
WOOSH
RE-TREAT!
SHIT
OGUNA, WHO ARE THEY?
BUT
DON'T PURSUING TOO FAR IS DANGER-OUS.
GET BACK HERE!
YOU'LL GET BURNED IF YOU CHASE THEM WITHOUT MUCH THOUGHT
THEY ALSO USE JUTSU THAT ARE UNKNOWN TO MOST
THEY ARE "HISOMI", THE ASSAS-SINATION SECT OF AMAMIKADO
GRIN
.....
YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM, DON'T YOU?

YOU'RE NOT BAD
OH...
I SEE. THEY MUST HAVE COME TO CHECK OUT THE SECRET PATH THROUGH THE "FOREST OF DECEPTION"...
WE'VE COME WITH CONVICTION TO OFFER THE STRENGTH WE POSSESS, HOWEVER SMALL, TO JAGARA
WE ARE MERELY MEN WHO OPPOSE THE TYRANNY OF AMAMIKADO, AND SYMPATHIZE WITH JAGARA
LET US HEAR YOUR NAMES
WE WOULD LIKE TO BE YOUR ALLIES, IF YOU DON'T MIND
IT APPEARS THAT YOUR SOLDIERS ARE FATIGUED FROM THE BATTLES WITH AMAMIKADO

IZUMO NO TAKERU
KUMASO NO TAKERU
OGUNA NO TAKERU


I'VE HEARD QUITE A BIT ABOUT YOU. ♡
I AM GENERAL ADA OF JAGARA


ALLOW ME TO TAKE YOU TO OUR COUNTRY FOR THE TIME BEING. HOWEVER,...
I THANK YOU FOR YOUR SELFLESS ACT.
HOWEVER?


OUR ARMS? ARE THEY GONNA HURT US??
ARMS. SHE MEANS OUR WEAPONS.
WE WILL KEEP YOUR ARMS.

THAT IS AN APPROPRIATE CONSIDERATION AS A COMMANDER IN CHARGE
CLANK
NO WAY!
WHAT!!
DON'T MISUNDERSTAND IT'S JUST A PRECAUTION

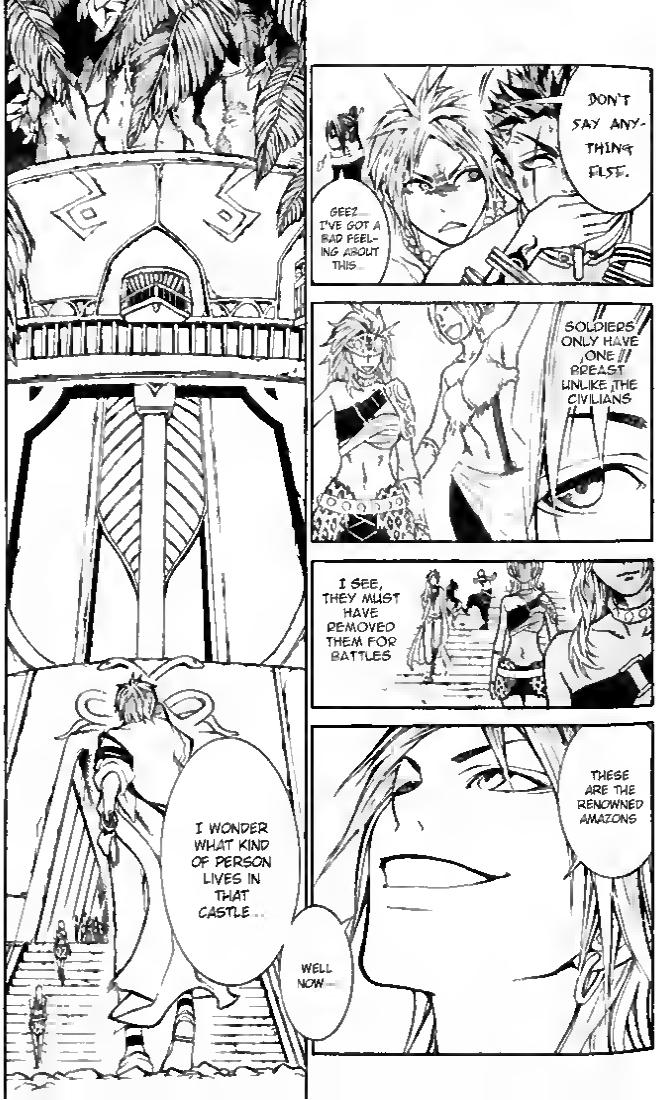
.....
...FINE
GO ON.
CLINK
CLANK
POP
IS THAT ALL?
.....
WHERE THE HELL DID YOU HAVE ALL THAT TUCKED AWAY?
.....
CLANG

THIS SERIOUSLY IS A MAZE...
I'M DEFINITELY GONNA GET LOST...
GO GET LOST ON YOUR OWN
WE'VE WALKED QUITE A BIT NOW
IS JAGARA STILL FAR OFF?
YOU'LL SEE IT WHEN WE GO AROUND THAT BEND
WOW

ADA-SAMA HAS RETURNED!
THAT'S ADA-SAMA!
JAGARA SHALL NOT BE DEFEATED SO LONG AS THE BLOOD RAINBOW HANGS IN THE HEAVEN!
EVERYONE, PLEASE ENDURE JUST A LITTLE LONGER!
SO, THIS IS JAGARA...

THIS IS AMAZING...

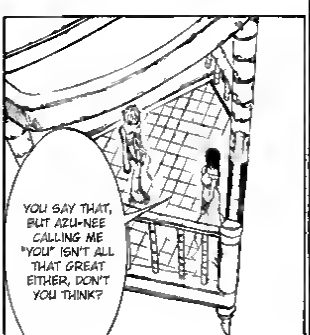
CHEERING
YEAH. THESE VIBES AIN'T BAD
THEY LOOK CONTENT
THE REGIME MUST BE SKILLED.
THEY CAN RESIST THE POWERFUL AMAMIKADO BECAUSE THE PEOPLE ARE UNITED.
THANKS TO THE POWER OF THE DIVINE SWORD.
MUMUR!
SHHHH

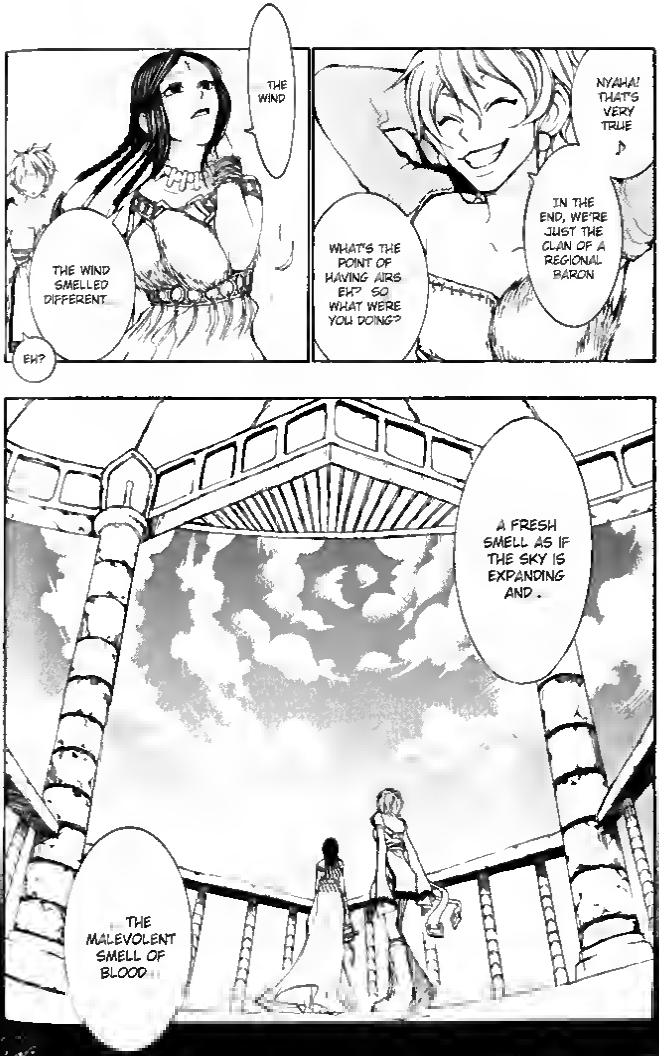

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF PERSON LIVES IN THAT CASTLE...
WELL NOW...
THESE ARE THE RENOWNED AMAZONS
I SEE, THEY MUST HAVE REMOVED THEM FOR BATTLES
SOLDIERS ONLY HAVE ONE BREAST UNLIKE THE CIVILIANS
GEEZ... I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS...
DON'T SAY ANYTHING ELSE.

TAP
WHAATCHA DOIN' YAMATO? ♪

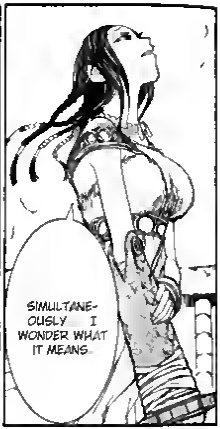
HEY YOU, I DON'T REALLY CARE, BUT YOU SHOULD CALL ME ADZUMA-NEESAMA PROPERLY IN PUBLIC...
WE, OF ALL PEOPLE, ARE THE ROYAL FAMILY.

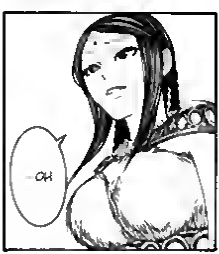
ADZU-NEECHAN

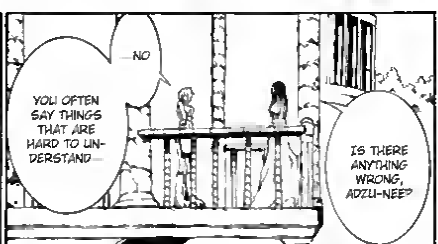

YOU SAY THAT, BUT AZU-NEE CALLING ME "YOU" ISN'T ALL THAT GREAT EITHER, DON'T YOU THINK?

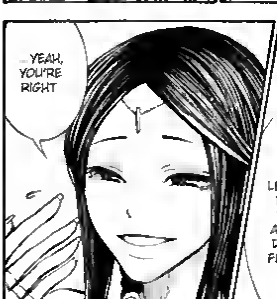

THE WIND
THE WIND SMELLED DIFFERENT
EH?
NYAHA! THAT'S VERY TRUE ♪
IN THE END, WE'RE JUST THE CLAN OF A REGIONAL BARON
WHAT'S THE POINT OF HAVING AIRS EH? SO WHAT WERE YOU DOING?
A FRESH SMELL AS IF THE SKY IS EXPANDING AND .
THE MALEVOLENT SMELL OF BLOOD..

SMELL OF BLOOD...


SIMULTANEOUSLY I WONDER WHAT IT MEANS...

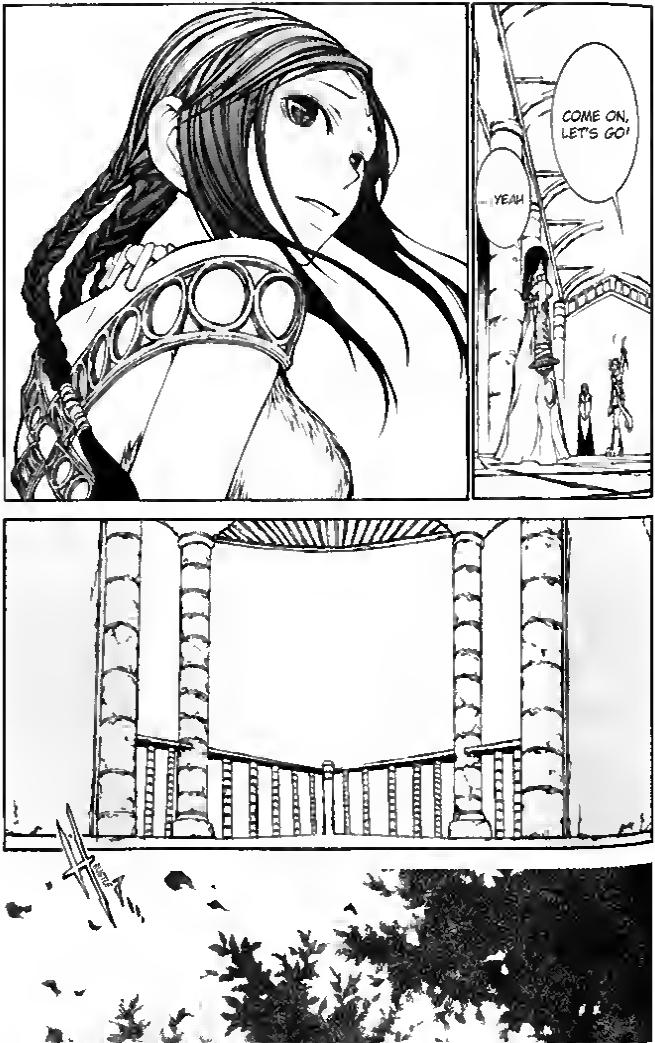

—OH


—NO
YOU OFTEN SAY THINGS THAT ARE HARD TO UNDERSTAND—
IS THERE ANYTHING WRONG, ADZU-NEE?

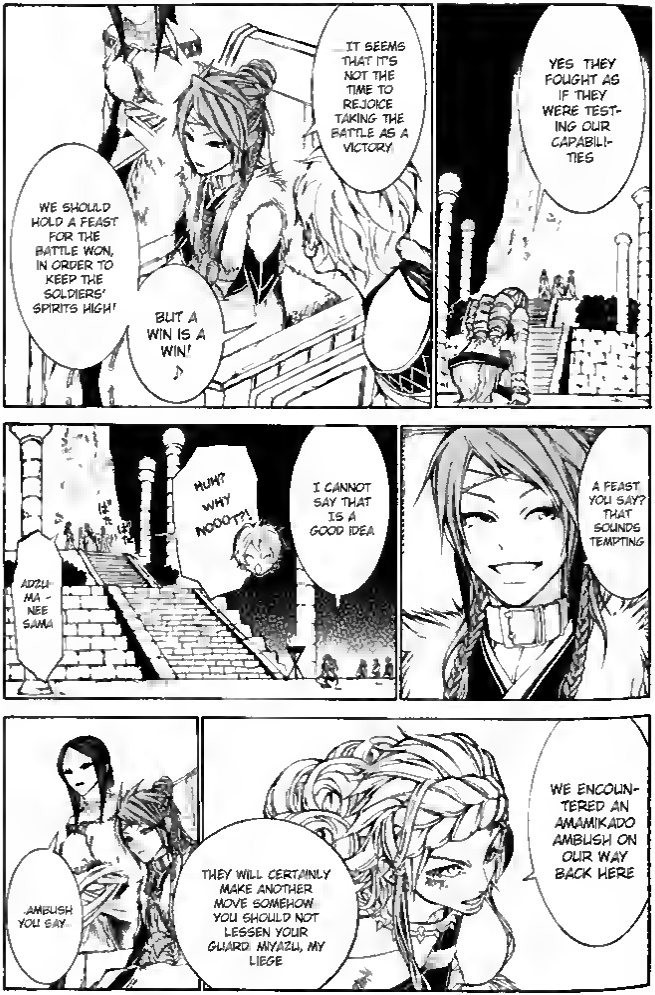

—YEAH, YOU'RE RIGHT

IF THE LEADER LOOKS DOWN, EVEN THE PEOPLE AND THE SOLDIERS WOULD FEEL ANXIOUS!
COME ON! DON'T LOOK SO DOWN

ニヤニヤ
There you go. Girls look best in smiles! ♪
ADZUMA-SAMA, YAMATO-SAMA, PLEASE READY YOURSELVES TO LEAVE
MIYAZU-SAMA AWAITS
OOPS! I FORGOT
I GOT SIDE-TRACKED SINCE YOU SAID SOMETHING SO WEIRD
MIYAZU-NEE RAMBLES ON FOREVER IF SHE GETS MIFFED


COME ON, LET'S GO!
YEAH

...I SEE,
YOU OBSERVED SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES IN MUMIKADO'S ARMED FORCES...


IT SEEMS THAT IT'S NOT THE TIME TO REJOICE TAKING THE BATTLE AS A VICTORY
WE SHOULD HOLD A FEAST FOR THE BATTLE WON, IN ORDER TO KEEP THE SOLDIERS' SPIRITS HIGH!
BUT A WIN IS A WIN! ♪
YES THEY FOUGHT AS IF THEY WERE TESTING OUR CAPABILITIES
ADZUMA-NEE SAMA
HUH? WHY NOOO?!
I CANNOT SAY THAT IS A GOOD IDEA
A FEAST YOU SAY? THAT SOUNDS TEMPTING
AMBUSH YOU SAY
THEY WILL CERTAINLY MAKE ANOTHER MOVE SOMEHOW. YOU SHOULD NOT LESSEN YOUR GUARD, MIYAZU, MY LIEGE
WE ENCOUNTERED AN AMAMIKADO AMBUSH ON OUR WAY BACK HERE

THREE...
COULD THEY BE THE ONES MENTIONED BY THE WORDS OF THE PROPHET SAGUME...?
THERE WERE THREE BRAVE SOULS WHO ASSISTED US DURING THE AMBUSH
I WILL SEE THEM.
I THOUGHT OF THAT POSSIBILITY, SO I BROUGHT THEM WITH US
WILL YOU SEE THEM?
STEP
KILL
KILL

THIS IS OUR EMPRESS OF JAGARA,
MIYAZU-SAMA,
AND THE SECOND PRINCESS, ADZUMA-SAMA,
AND THE THIRD PRINCESS, YAMATO-SAMA.
BEAUTIES
YEAH THEY'RE ALL PRETTY HOT ♡
……

IT'S AN HONOR WE DO NOT DESERVE, TO BE GIVEN SUCH WORDS
BY THE EMPRESS OF JAGARA HERSELF
I THANK YOU
FOR ASSISTING MY SOLDIERS
"WHEN THREE STALWART SOULS GATHER AT THE BLESSED TREE,
THE SNAKE SHALL SHED ITS SKIN AND BARE ITS FANGS AGAINST THE HEAVENS.
'TIS THE TIME MARKING THE BEGINNING OF THE 10-MILLENIA-- KINGDOM OF THE EMPRESS AND THE STALWART SOULS."
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO FORMAL WE HAVE OUR OWN CIRCUMSTANCES
YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES I SEE--

AH, SAGUME
I AM GLAD YOU CAME.
THE ONE TO KNOW THE TIME WOULD BE THE PROPHET
I SHALL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE WHEN NEEDED.
PROPHET SAGUME

IF YOU INTERPRET THAT PROPHECY,
AMAMIKADO WILL BE DEFEATED, AND 10,000 YEARS OF PEACE WILL BE ATTAINED WHEN THE THREE HEROES ARRIVE
OR ATLEAST IT CAN BE TAKEN AS SUCH
CAN BE? HOW ELSE CAN YOU INTERPRET IT?

IT'S A PROPHECY.
SMILE
YOU CAN INTERPRET IT ANY WAY YOU LIKE
I SEE. I THOUGHT THEY ACCEPTED US RATHER EASILY, BUT IT WAS BECAUSE OF THAT PROPHECY.
ARE THEY SAYING WE'RE THE "THREE STALWART SOULS"?

THAT WILL BE REVEALED NOW.

IF WE FAIL?
I WILL HAVE YOU FACE THREE TRIALS
WHEN YOU HAVE ADMIRABLY COMPLETED THOSE TRIALS, WE SHALL RECEIVE YOU ALL AS OUR ESTEEMED GUESTS
HOWEVER, IF YOU FAIL THOSE TRIALS...
WE CANNOT ALLOW THIS PROPHECY TO BE HEARD OUTSIDE OF THIS LAND
CLANG

WELL NOW, THAT'S A RATHER DIFFICULT CONDITION.
BLACK
SHIFT
SOMETHING SEEMS ODD
BESIDES
WHAT DO YOU INTEND TO DO?
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TAKE IT
HEH
YOU SEEM SO CARE-FREE
ANYWAYS THEY SAY ADVENTURES ALWAYS GO HAND IN HAND WITH DIFFICULTIES!
WHAT A SHIFTY FELLOW...

( END Vol 1 Chp 3 )

# Snow Kiss

#snow-kiss@mchighway

## takeru

Nakajima Kazuki
& Kurokura Kenjuro

| | |
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# Snow Kiss Note

Note about the conversation on pages 25-26.

- "-nee" or "-neechan" refers to an older sister
- "-sama" refers to someone of higher rank.
- directly referring to someone as "you" can be considered too informal, familiar, or rude, depending on the situation in Japanese

# #4 The Three Tests

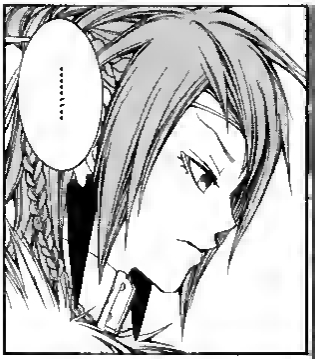
THE THREE BRAVE HOLY MEN
THE SNAKE SHALL SHED ITS SKIN AND BARE ITS FANGS AGAINST HEAVEN
THIS IS THE TIME MARKING THE BEGINNING OF THE 10 MILLENIA OF THE EMPRESS AND THE STALWART SOULS

WHETHER THE THREE STALWART MEN MENTIONED BY PROPHET SAGUME ARE YOU YOUNG MASTERS
LET US TEST YOU WITH THREE TRIALS

SO THAT'S THE GOD OF THE SWORD'S PROPHECY, EH?

EY
PROPHET?
APPARENTLY HE CONVEYS THE WORDS OF THE SWORD GOD, AND IS POWERFUL IN THIS COUNTRY

YOU WILL NOT LEAVE THIS FORTRESS ALIVE
IF YOU'RE NOT ABLE TO SATISFY THE REQUIRE-MENTS OF THE TRIALS
DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY. IT'S WARTIME
THIS SEEMS TO BE VERY STRICT
EVERYONE SAYS THE SAME THING
Ah?
KEH.. YOU SAY WHATEVER YOU WANT


……

CAN EVERYTHING BE FORGIVEN FOR THE SAKE OF A FIGHT?

HAH! SOMETIMES YOU DO SAY PROPER THINGS, DON'T YOU?

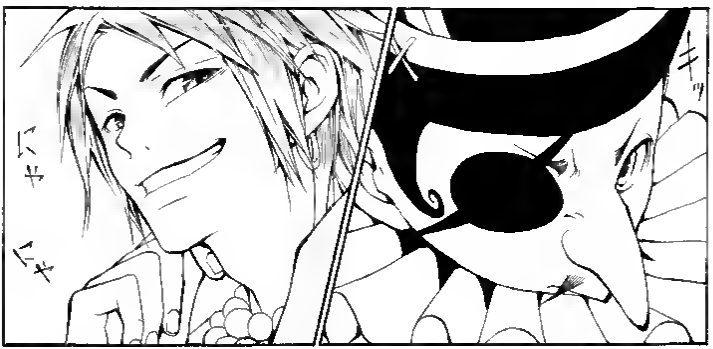
AS YOU HEARD, THIS SIDE IS MORE THAN HAPPY TO OBLIGE
WHO SAID THAT, HUH?!

WHAT'S WITH YOU! I'M PRAISING YOU, AREN'T I?
IT'S AN ANNOY-ANCE

HEY, DON'T QUARREL WITH ME SO MUCH
THAT'S NOT THE POINT!
WHAT A HAPHAZARD LIFESTYLE
YOU ARE PERFECT MATCH, AND OUR TEAMWORK IS GREAT
WE'LL MAKE IT ♡
ARE THESE REALLY THE THREE THAT YOU MEANT?
OR PERHAPS THEY ARE DIFFERENT....

ADZUMA
YOU TALK TOO MUCH
A, ADZUMA-NEESAMA
SOMEHOW THEY SEEM LIKE A RELAXED BUNCH
CAN THEY REALLY PASS THE TESTS?
BRING THE PRIEST HERE
YES!
OH? WHAT'S THAT?
ぱん
ぱん

WOW. ISN'T HE RATHER SMALL?
EEH! SO THIS IS THIS COUNTRY'S PRIEST
JINGLE
THE PRIEST, HATAHATABIKO
IN THE NAME OF HER MAJESTY EMPRESS MIYAZU I SHALL PRESIDE OVER THE THREE TRIALS



SO HERE EACH OF YOU WILL COMPETE IN ONE OF THE THREE TRIALS
IF YOU LACK ANY ONE OF THEM, YOU CANNOT SURVIVE IN THE BATTLEFIELD
THE THREE TRIALS WILL TEST YOUR WISDOM, MARTIAL, AND LUCK
THEN PLEASE CHOOSE THE CARD THAT YOU LIKE FROM HERE

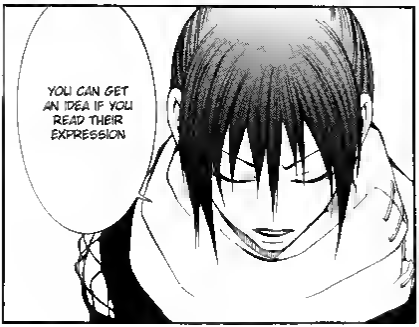
I DON'T FEEL COMFORTABLE IF I DON'T GO FIRST IN SUCH SITUATION

ALRIGHT! THEN, I SHALL BE THE FIRST TO —
DON'T DECIDE THINGS BY YOURSELF

Aish...
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IF THE "CHI"* CARD APPEARS HUH?
SO I'LL GO BEFORE YOU AND DRAW THAT CARD

DON'T YOU LISTEN TO WHAT PEOPLE SAY!
THAT WOULD BE LIKE A CHILD'S WAY OF THINKING
I WILL GO

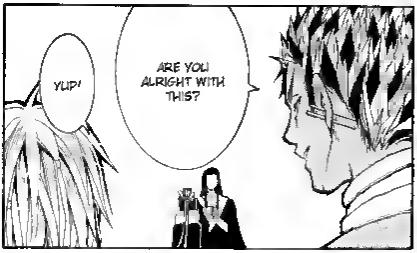
*Chi=wisdom


YOU CAN GET AN IDEA IF YOU READ THEIR EXPRESSION

WILL YOU BE ABLE TO GET THE CARD THAT YOU WANT?

HMPH
BOSS, LET'S LEAVE THINGS HERE FOR OGUNA TO HANDLE
DON'T WORRY! HE WILL MAKE IT HAPPEN ♡

GEEZ... YOU'RE REALLY SOMETHING


YUP!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT WITH THIS?

WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU THEN!
HMPH!

HUH.

THE LEAD ROLE ALWAYS APPEARS LAST

THOSE THAT ARE HERE ARE
THE THREE CARDS OF "CHI" "BU", "UN"
NOW THEN, DRAW ONE
※Chi=wisdom
Bu=Martial
Un=luck
HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE A MAN WHO IS EASY TO DEAL WITH
CAN YOU READ HIM REGARD-LESS OF HOW WELL HE HIDES IT?
THE CARDS IN THAT PERSON'S HANDS ARE

イラ
TCH. HAVE I MISJUDGED?
TWITCH
HE WONDERED HOW MUCH STRENGTH A SMALL PERSON LIKE OGUNA POSSESSES. THAT WAS THE REACTION HE JUST HAD
THAT'S PROBABLY THE CAROTOF MARTIAL
YOU ARE SO EASY TO UNDERSTAND HATAHATABIKO-SAN

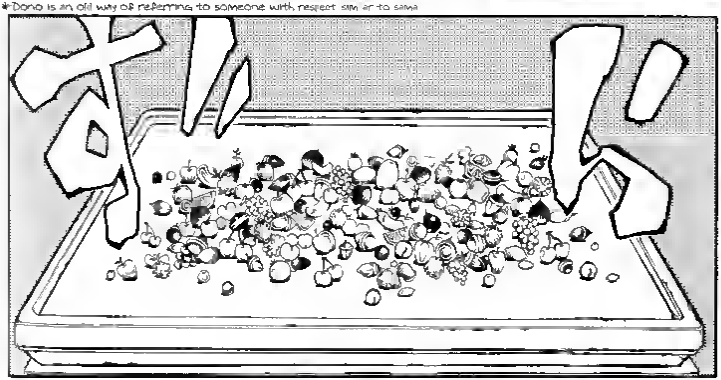
HE WHO MOVES FIRST, WINS!!!
WHA...

WHAT'S THIS?
AH?

Ah?
.....
THE SNAKE IS THE SYMBOL OF WISDOM
PLEASE UNDERTAKE THE TEST OF WISDOM
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO, OBLINA?
IT CAN'T BE HELPED
THAT IDIOT
tch!

TIGER IS THE SYMBOL OF "MARTIAL"
THEREFORE, KUMASO-DONO* WILL UNDERTAKE THE TEST OF WISDOM
AND OGUNA-DONO WILL KINDLY UNDER-TAKE THE TEST OF MARTIAL ART

*Dono is an old way of referring to someone with respect similar to sama



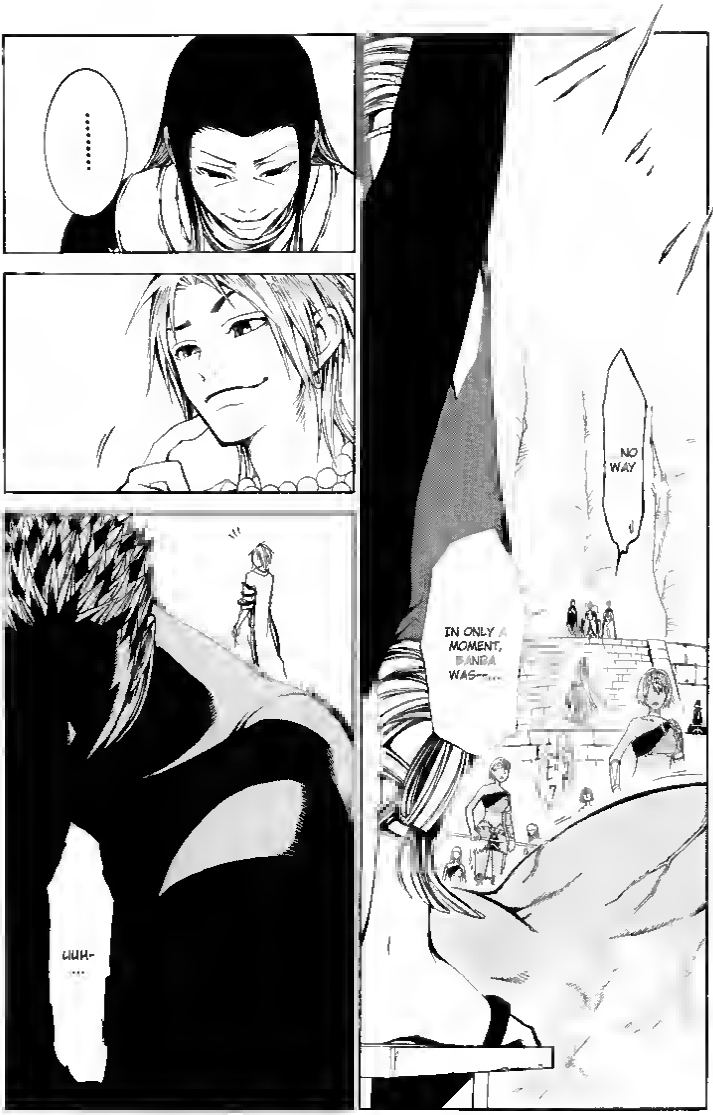
THESE ARE ALL THE FRUITS FOUND IN JAGARA'S FOREST
IN ALL OF THAT, THERE IS A SINGLE POISONOUS FRUIT
PLEASE IDENTIFY THAT FRUIT
THIS IS

JAGARA IS PROTECTED BY THE POWER OF THE FOREST GOD'S SWORD
TO KNOW THE FOREST IS THE MOST PROFOUND WISDOM OF JAGARA
CHOOSING A SINGLE FRUIT...
AND SO, THE TEST OF MARTIAL ART
IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW KUMASO DEALS WITH THIS
COME! BANBA!

I SHALL HAVE OGUNA-DONO TO COMBAT WITH KABANBA WHO IS KNOWN TO BE MOST POWERFUL IN THE NATION OF JAGARA
WOAH!... HUGE!
IS THAT REALLY HUMAN?

ADZUMA
Nyahahahaha
THE OUTCOME SHOULD BE CLEAR FROM THE DIFFERENCE IN SIZE!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR THAT OCHIBI-CHAN*
*Chibi means small. Adzuma is just being cute calling Oguna small XD
NOW THEN, WILL WE HAVE THE HONOUR TO SEE THESE TWO'S SKILLS?
NOW, BOTH PARTIES,
BEGIN!
GUH..

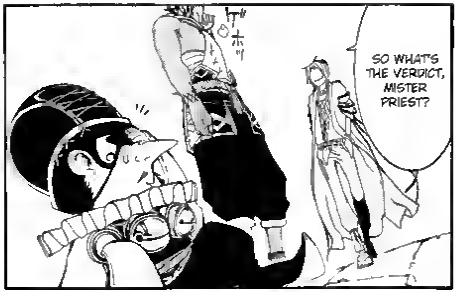
ぐぅん
ズドドド

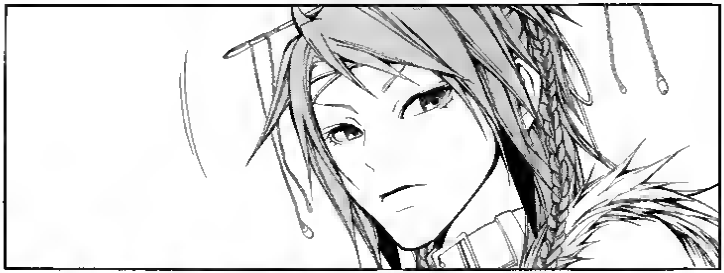

.....
NO WAY
IN ONLY A MOMENT, PANDA WAS-...
UUH-...

AH!
GAH! SO BOTHERSOME!
GUH ..
SO FOOLISH.. A SINGLE NUT THAT WAS MIXED IN IS A FRUIT OF THE BLOOD-TEARING PINE
IT'S A DEADLY POISON THAT CAN BURST A HEART EVEN WITH A SINGLE NUT
HOLD IT!
...SINCE THAT HAPPENED, THE REST OF THEM SHOULD NOW BE KILLED~
WHAT A BUMMER! ESPECIALLY SINCE THEY MANAGED TO CLEAR ONE ROUND

THIS IS IT, RIGHT?
...THA-THAT FRUIT IS THE RIGHT ONE
BUT... HOW DID YOU KNOW?!
.....
SINCE I GREW UP WITHOUT PARENTS
I PUT ANYTHING IN MY MOUTH
SO MY BODY KNOWS EXACTLY WHAT IS POISONOUS OR NOT FOR ME
PRUFT!
OW!
HRRK!

……


SO WHAT'S THE VERDICT, MISTER PRIEST?



Yeah!
THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE "CHI" AND "BU" TESTS HAVE BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED

SO THAT WAS A FLUKE SUCCESS
AS EXPECTED FROM THIS TIME'S HITTER
AAH
INDEED... DON'T YOU KNOW HOW TO BE HUMBLE?
YOU THOUGHT THERE IS NO WAY I CAN MAKE IT DIDN'T YOU?
I DON'T DENY THAT
I THOUGHT SO TOO! BUT BOY AM I GLAD THAT IT WAS ONLY NUT PICKING
DID YOU REALLY GROW UP IN THE FOREST?
SORT OF...

WELL WELL GOOD JOB
YOU'VE DONE REALLY WELL
I WON'T FORGIVE YOU IF YOU FAIL
LET'S SEE HOW YOU TAKE YOUR UN* CARD
OOH?! HOW SCARY

*UN=LUCK

THE DRAGON REPRESENTS HEAVENLY LUCK
I SHALL TEST YOUR HEAVENLY LUCK WITH THE FINAL TRIAL
THIS IS THE POT OF JUDGMENT PASSED DOWN THROUGH GENERATIONS IN THE NATION OF JAGARA
GYGLE

THIS WHITE BEAD REPRESENTS PURE LOYALTY
YAMATO -SAMA
NOW PLEASE TAKE ONLY ONE BEAD FROM THIS POT
IF IT IS THE WHITE BEAD, THEN YOU HAVE BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED BY THE SWORD GOD FOR HAVING HEAVENLY LUCK

All I did was ask ♡
Now now! You don't have to make such a scary face
IS IT ALRIGHT IF I PEEK INSIDE?
HOW CAN IT POSSIBLY BE ALRIGHT TO PEEK?!
HE TRULY IS HARD TO READ
THIS IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO SEE HIS STRENGTH
THIS REALLY IS A TEST OF ONE'S LUCK
DOES IZUMO EVEN HAVE THE TIME TO FOOL AROUND LIKE THAT?
YEAH, I THINK SO TOO
I ALSO HAVE AN INTEREST IN HIM
BE QUIET OVER THERE!
I SEE THAT WE CAN AGREE ON SOMETHING ONCE IN A BLUE MOON
AT LEAST HE SEEMS MORE USEFUL THAN YOU ARE

REALLY I NEVER GET BORED WITH YOU TWO
NOW THEN, SHALL WE DO THIS?
DAMN!
KAA

YOU'LL DIE IN JUST A MOMENT IF YOU GET STUNG!
THAT'S A MAGARI-MUSHI!
MIYAZU NEESAMA !!
!
WHY IS AN INSECT LIKE THAT...!?
TCHE!

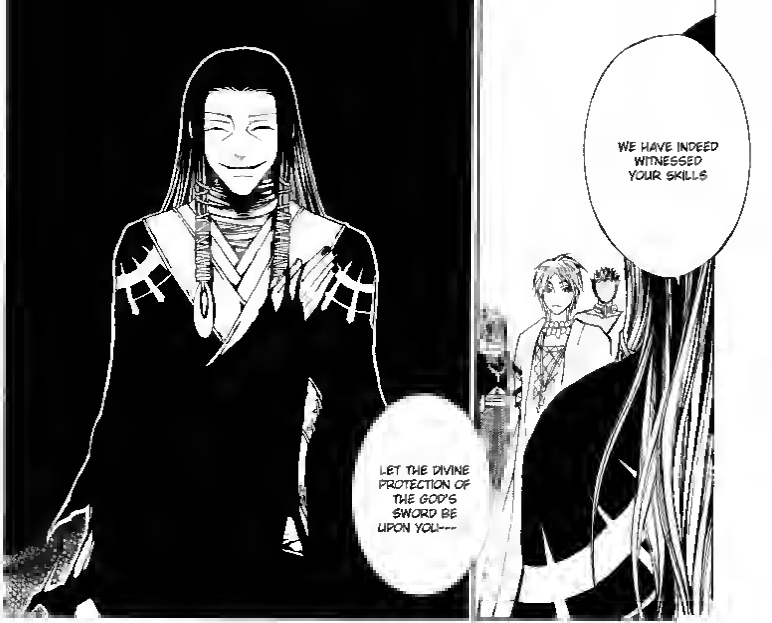
ARE YOU HURT, MIYAZU-NEESAMA?!
SPLAT!
SFX | PANK!
YOU ALRIGHT?
YEAH AT LEAST I DIDN'T GET STUNG
THE POT IS BROKEN THOUGH

—THAT'S TOO BAD THEN, IZUMO NO TAKERU!
THERE IS NO SECOND CHANCE IN THE THREE TESTS
THE APPEARANCE OF THE MAGARI-MUSHI SHOWS THAT YOUR LUCK IS NOT STRONG ENOUGH
BRING THOSE THREE TO THE EXECUTION GROUNDS
—SO THAT'S HOW IT HAS BEEN DECIDED
Heh ?!
PAF !!
OI' OI' ARE THEY FOR REAL?
YOU'RE ONLY THAT MUCH OF A MAN AFTER ALL

I DON'T REALLY WANT TO FIGHT WITH WOMEN, BUT
DON'T BE SO HASTY, YOU TWO!
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT!
ざわ
ISN'T THIS THE STONE THAT IZUMO-DONO THREW?
SAGUME

THIS WAS THE BEAD THAT WAS PICKED OUT FROM THE POT
THEREFORE, IZUMO-DONO HAS SHOWN THAT HE HAS PASSED THE TEST OF LUCK. HAS HE NOT?
THE WHITE BEAD
THIS MEANS...
FORGIVE OUR RUDENESS. YOU HAVE TRULY PASSED THE THREE TESTS
WE SHALL RECEIVE YOU AS HONOURED GUESTS OF JAGARA
THAT'S TRUE...
IT'S MY FAULT FOR BEING TOO HASTY
THEN

PHEW...
I DID AN UNNECESSARY THING
DON'T MENTION IT. I'M SURE YOU MEANT TO SAY SO YOURSELF
THANKS FOR YOUR CORRECTION EARLIER, MR. PROPHET


LET THE DIVINE PROTECTION OF THE GOD'S SWORD BE UPON YOU---
WE HAVE INDEED WITNESSED YOUR SKILLS

...HE REALLY IS A MAN WHO IS HARD TO READ

NOW THAT WE'VE FINISHED THE THREE TESTS
WHAT DO YOU THINK WILL HAPPEN NOW?
IT WAS INTERESTING, WASN'T IT?
REALLY! DON'T MAKE US SO WORRIED

AS ALWAYS, YOU'RE SO COLD...
...WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO WITH YOUR HAND?
.....
WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING
MY EARS ARE JUST RINGING A BIT
EARS RINGING?
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, MY EARS
!

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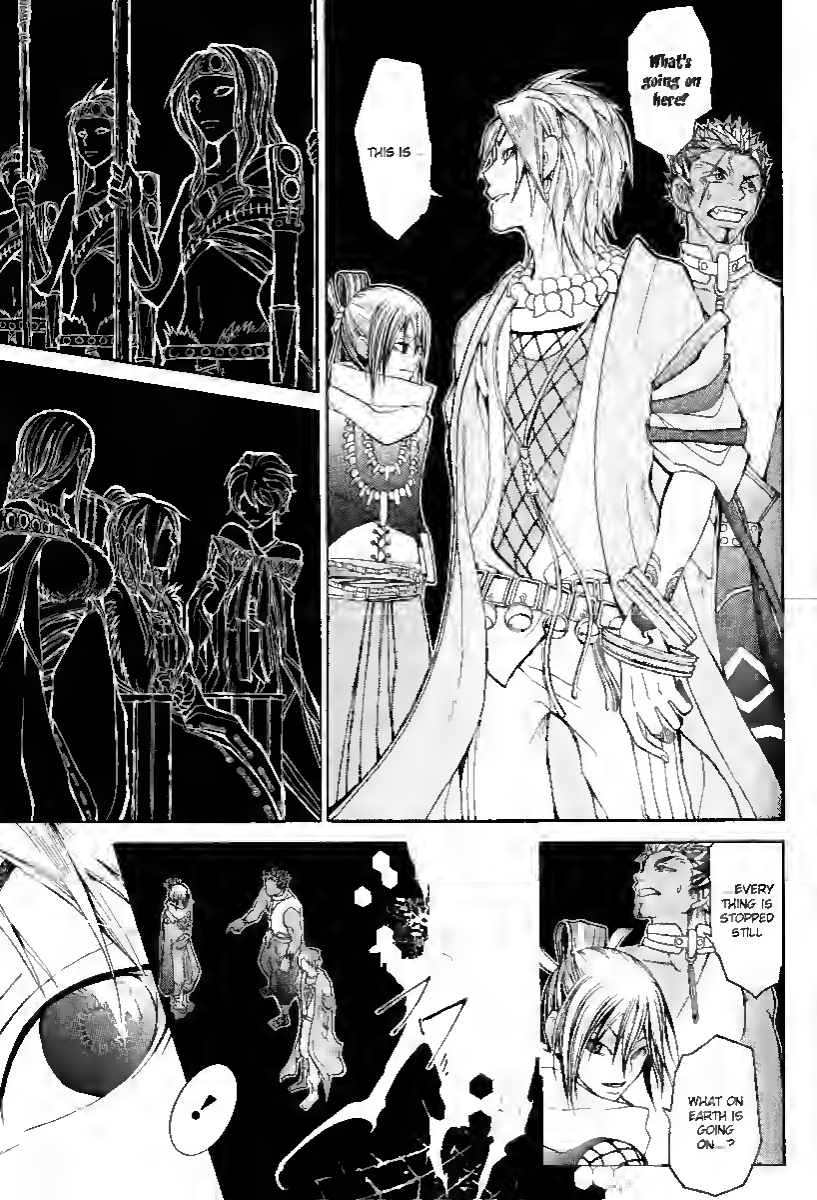
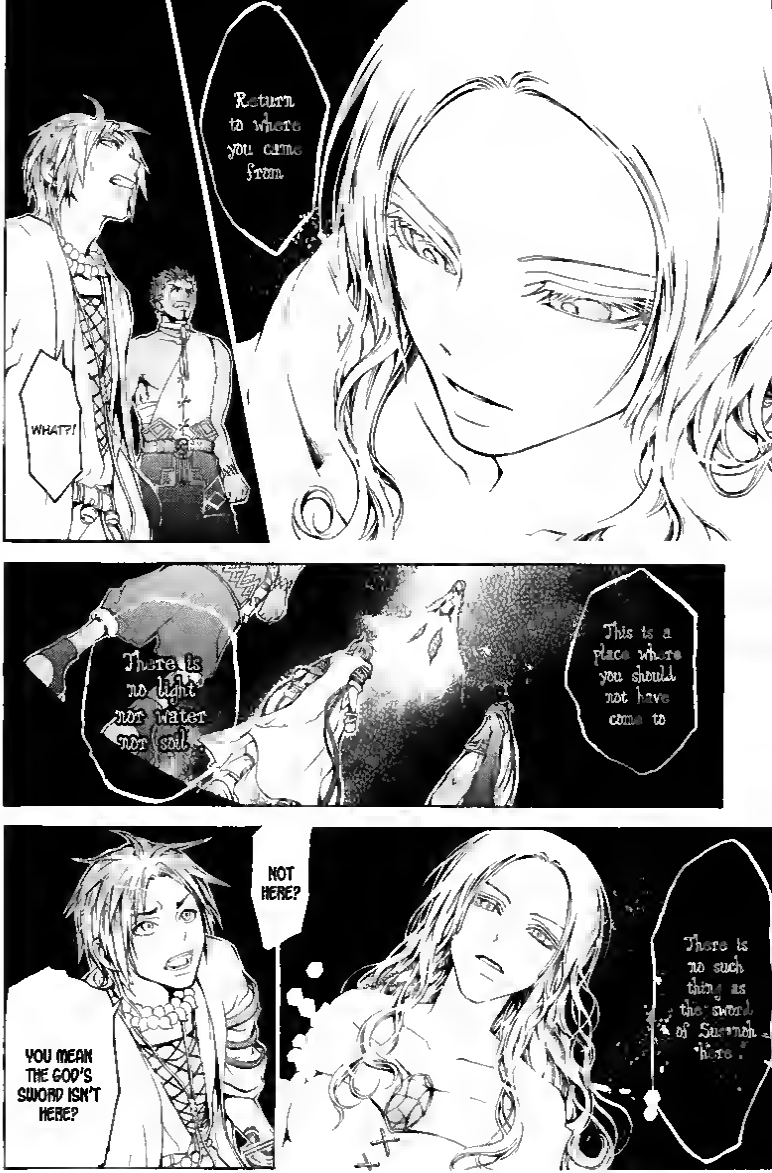

What's going on here?
THIS IS ...
EVERY THING IS STOPPED STILL
WHAT ON EARTH IS GOING ON...?

WHA...


Return to where you came from.
WHAT?!
This is a place where you should not have come to
There is no light nor water nor soil.
YOU MEAN THE GOD'S SWORD ISN'T HERE?
NOT HERE?
There is no such thing as the sword of Surmah here.

HEY WHAT EXACTLY IS GOING ON HERE?!
Return to where you came from!
Before a terrible calamity...

……
WE CAN'T EXPECT IT TO GO SO SMOOTHLY
A TERRIBLE CALAMITY
YEAH
DID YOU SEE THAT?
IT SEEMS ONLY THE THREE OF US WERE CHOSEN TO SEE THAT
WE ARE TRYING TO ACHIEVE SUCH A FEAT AS TO GAIN THE DIVINE SWORD

# Comic #1 Post Script

I wonder how long ago Mr H. the editor has come to me with an interest to "manga-nise" a theatrical piece with a new twist. My understanding of Gekidan Shikankaku was to express the charms of manga and movies in the form of threatrical venue. Therefore I decided to try thinking that it would be interesting to see it happen. There were many setbacks along the way due to changes that we did not foresee, but we made it to the point where we can actually publish the comics. I believe that this was possible thanks to Mr. H's persistence, passion of Ms. Y who joined us anew, and most importantly, the young talent known as Karakarakemuri. The theatrical adaptation of the original series was played 6, 7 years ago. In order to make this into a manga series, I've been re-writing every chapter along the way. I feel my effort has been rewarded when I see Karakarakemuri-san improving as time passes, because I can feel that she truly loves and develops the 3 characters of Izumo, Oguna and Kumaso. That is evident from the details of their conversations and gestures. Although I'm almost twice her age, she makes me want to improve so I will not be behind. The tale surrounding the divine sword quickly becomes harsh from the second volume on. Even then, I hope that you would look forward to seeing what sort of ending awaits after the story develops.

Nakajima Kazuki

# POSTSCRIPT

NICE TO MEET YOU. THIS IS KARAKARAKEMURI. THANKS FOR PURCHASING THIS COMIC. IF YOU ARE READING THIS AT THE STORE OR AT YOUR FRIENDS PLACE, PLEASE BUY IT. WELL, THIS IS THE FIRST COMIC FOR ME. YEEHAH! WELL, IT'S HARD TO BE A MANGAKA. TIME HAS BEEN PASSING SINCE THE SERIALIZATION STARTED AS IF I AM AMIDST THE RAGING BILLOWS. THIS HAS BEEN A PRECIOUS EXPERIENCE FOR ME.

I AM SURE THERE ARE SOME WHO MAY WONDER WHY I AM IN CHARGE OF THE ART WORKS, BUT PLEASE TAKE THAT THOUGHT TO THE GARBAGE COLLECTION SPOT ON A DAY DESIGNATED FOR THE FLAMMABLE WASTE.

EVEN I MYSELF WAS QUITE SURPRISED WHEN I HEARD ABOUT THIS PROJECT. REALLY, IT'S RUDE FOR ME TO SAY THIS, BUT I HAVE NEVER HEARD OF GEKIDAN SHINKANKAKU SINCE I WAS COMPLETELY IGNORANT OF THEATRICAL WORLD.

PLEASE DON'T CRITICIZE ME! THE MORE I LEARNED ABOUT HOW GREAT NAKAJIMA-SAN WAS, THE MORE FRIGHTENED I BECAME. TO BE HONEST I KEPT THINKING THAT THIS PROJECT IS TOO BIG FOR ME TO HANDLE. BEING A TRUE AMATEUR THAT I AM, I KEPT WONDERING ABOUT THINGS AS SUCH, I DECIDED I MIGHT AS WELL SEE WHAT HAPPENS SINCE NOTHING BECOMES IF IT'S JUST WONDERING ABOUT THINGS. YES, I WILL JUST BLAME IT ON THE PERSON IN CHARGE, SO I WINDED UP TAKING PART IN THIS.

I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE MY VERY BEST EFFORT KNOWING THAT I AM LACKING IN DEPTH, SO THAT I WOULD NOT TROUBLE PEOPLE WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT. YOU MIGHT NOTICE THAT THERE ARE MUCH INADEQUACY ON MY PART, BUT PLEASE SEE AS A PART OF MY DEVELOPMENT.

I WOULD BE MOST HONOURED IF YOU COULD PUT UP WITH ME FOR THE TIME BEING.
THANK YOU FOR READING THE RANDOM RAMBLING.

WISHING HAPPINESS TO THOSE WHO HAVE READ OR WERE INVOLVED IN THIS WORK WITH SINCERE GRATITUDE!
I HOPE TO SEE YOU SOON!

KARAKARAKEMURI

HUMON-
GOUS
THANKS!
I am let live by many others
Nakajima Kazuki
to the dear
readers.
Guest assistance
Mongolia
KEIKAND
(victim #1)
Brazil
Takubo
India
Akao - Nesia
THAI CURRY -
YOSHIME CARDUCHI
ASHIWARE
AGIENCE
UMESAN
My family
(for midnight snacks,
criticism, etc)
FUCHI
(for unlocking my games)

# Snow Kiss

#snow-kiss@mehughway

## takeru

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& Kurokura Kenjiro

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| QC | Kreszentia |

# Snow Kiss Note

Yay, it's the end of vol 1, which means vol 2 is soon to follow ^^. Snow Kiss would like to use this opportunity to thank you all for supporting us so far. Your supports have been a tremendous help to make us work harder XD.

If you like to distribute our work in any form, language or method, please ask kreszentia for permission. Thanks and have fun.